

RASTA ROOTS
History of the reggae revolution revealed



**AFRICA'S
AMAZONS**
The real warrior women
who inspired superheroes



ALL ABOUT

HISTORY

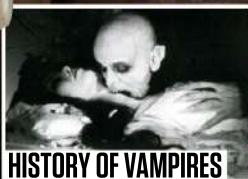
† **SPANISH INQUISITION** †

HERETIC HUNTERS

Discover the torture tactics
and grisly executions that
terrorised a nation



**ANCIENT WOMEN
WRITTEN OUT
OF HISTORY**



HISTORY OF VAMPIRES

Is there any truth to the
blood-sucking myths?



LEGENDARY RED TAILS

Bravery and sacrifice of
the Tuskegee Airmen



COLD WAR DEFECTORS

From Stalin's daughter to
celebrated sports stars

**1:1000**

R.M.S. TITANIC

1:1000 A55314

The RMS Titanic will go down in maritime history as not just the largest and most luxurious passenger ship afloat upon its launch in 1912, but also as the most infamous, due to its now legendary maiden voyage. Despite warnings given to it by other ships, the Titanic steamed into the side of an iceberg on the night of the 14th April 1912. This tore a large hole in the side of the hull, overwhelming the ship's famed, watertight compartments. As water poured in, the order was given to abandon ship, with women and children being prioritised over the men. Of the 2224 passengers on board, just 711 survived, with the vast majority being women and children of the first and second class. Today, more than 100 years after its maiden voyage and sinking, the legend of the Titanic continues to capture the imagination of the world.

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The auto-da-fé was an act of public penance that could be as light as public admission of sins, but could end in a death sentence

Welcome

If I'm being completely honest, my first exposure to the concept of the Spanish Inquisition was probably the famous Monty Python sketch. And while the methods of torture portrayed in their version were a little softer than those employed in reality, I would say that their zeal for punishing heretics seems no less maniacal. Exploring this dark episode in the history of Spain is an eye-opening experience, to say the least.

It's all the more shocking, in some ways, when you consider what Spain had been like before, when much of the nation was run by the Umayyad Caliphate. As we explore in our feature, the shift from relative religious tolerance and even cooperation to the strictures of Catholic rule under Isabella I of Castile and Ferdinand II of Aragon is quite shocking and the results harrowing, but well worth exploring and trying to understand.

Meanwhile, we wanted to take a look at some slightly more upbeat topics this issue to counterbalance such a grim lead feature. For that look no further than our conversation with celebrated music journalist and author Lloyd Bradley as we discuss the origins of reggae, and the heroic tales of the Tuskegee Airmen of WWII, known as the Red Tails. And if you like your dark history with a pinch of myth and legend then the history of vampires should be right up your alley.

Jonathan Gordon
Editor



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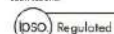
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Heretic Hunters

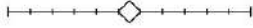
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Defining Moments





24 October 1901

FIRST BARREL RIDE OVER NIAGARA FALLS

On her 63rd birthday, American schoolteacher Annie Edson Taylor became the first person to survive a trip over Niagara Falls in a barrel. Taylor pulled the stunt in the hopes of raising funds and securing her financial future, but she ended up making very little money from it. She is pictured here lying in her custom-made barrel in preparation for the death-defying stunt.

© Alamy

23 October 1956

THE HUNGARIAN REVOLUTION

Thousands of people flocked to the streets of Budapest to demand an end to Soviet rule after police shot several anti-communist activists. Demonstrators also demanded democratic, free elections and press freedom. However, the Hungarian Revolution was brutally put down by Soviet tanks and troops after 12 days, leaving thousands of Hungarians wounded or dead. Another 200,000 fled as refugees.





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ALL ABOUT THE COLD WAR



How the battle for political, social and ideological supremacy between the USA and USSR defined much of the 20th century



**INSIDE A
LOCKHEED U-2**



**ANATOMY OF A
VIET CONG SOLDIER**



**COLD WAR
DEFECTORS**

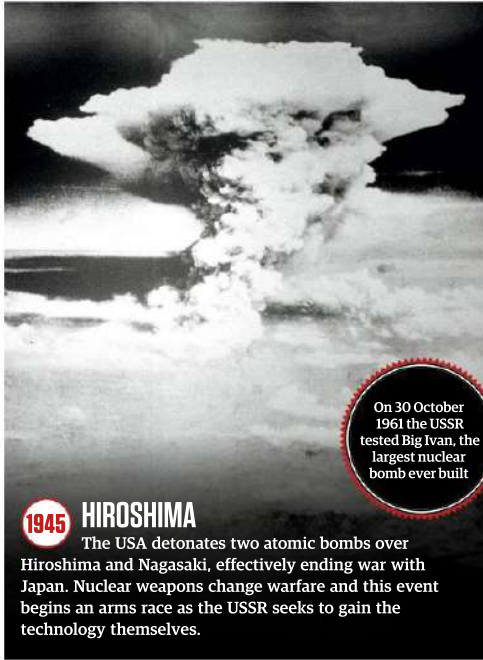


**THE GLOBAL
COLD WAR**

Written by Jessica Leggett, Callum McKelvie, Jonathan Gordon



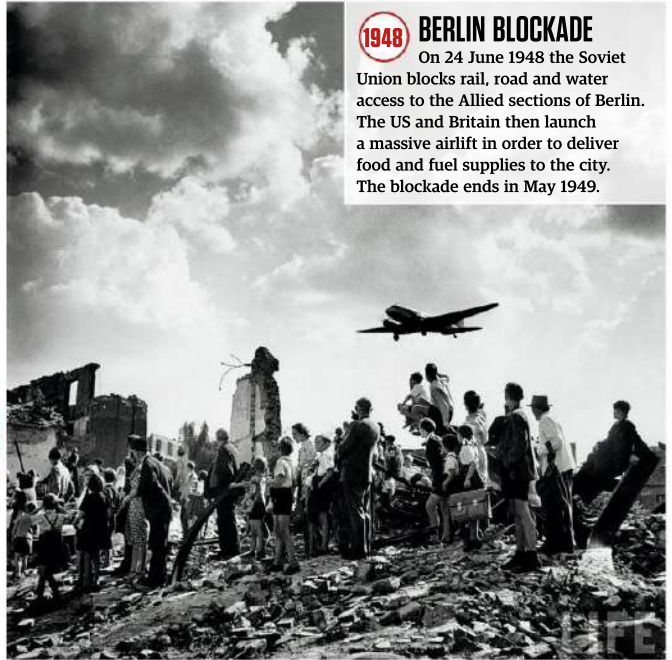
Key Events



1945 HIROSHIMA

The USA detonates two atomic bombs over Hiroshima and Nagasaki, effectively ending war with Japan. Nuclear weapons change warfare and this event begins an arms race as the USSR seeks to gain the technology themselves.

On 30 October 1961 the USSR tested Big Ivan, the largest nuclear bomb ever built



1948 BERLIN BLOCKADE

On 24 June 1948 the Soviet Union blocks rail, road and water access to the Allied sections of Berlin. The US and Britain then launch a massive airlift in order to deliver food and fuel supplies to the city. The blockade ends in May 1949.

YALTA CONFERENCE 1945

At the end of World War II, President Roosevelt, Winston Churchill and Joseph Stalin debate post-war policy. Germany is to be separated into occupied zones, and Russian occupation of Eastern Europe continues.



THE KOREAN WAR BEGINS 1950

The Cold War heats up as both the USSR and US intervene in the conflict between the communist north and the pro-Western Republic of Korea



SPUTNIK 1957

The USSR launches the world's first satellite, Sputnik, beginning the so-called space race between the Soviet Union and the United States.



1945

1948

1955



FIRST LIGHTNING 1949

On 29 August the USSR detonates its first successful atomic test, codenamed First Lightning, and in September President Truman announces the news to the US public. The arms race begins.

THE RED SCARE BEGINS 1950

Senator Joseph McCarthy gives a speech suggesting the US government has been infiltrated by communists. This begins a period of investigations and trials known as the Red Scare.



CUBAN REVOLUTION 1959

Fidel Castro overthrows dictator Fulgencio Batista in a communist revolution and aligns Cuba with the USSR. In 1961 the USA assists Cuban exiles in a botched invasion known as the Bay of Pigs.



1955 THE VIETNAM WAR BEGINS

The USA intervenes in the war between the communist north and the south in an attempt to stop communism spreading. The result is a long and costly war that leaves some three million dead and sees bitter opposition in the United States.

China's communist revolution in 1949 meant the US refused to recognise the country until 1971



1962 CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS

In October a tense 13-day military and political standoff occurs following the placement of Soviet missiles in Cuba. The US Navy blockades Cuba and threatens force if the missiles are not removed. Finally Khrushchev and Kennedy are able to reach an agreement and the missiles are removed.





Sections of the wall found an unlikely new home - in the men's toilets of Main Street Casino, Las Vegas

1989 FALL OF THE BERLIN WALL

On the evening of 9 November, East German official Gunter Schabowski announces border restrictions between the east and west of Berlin will be permanently relaxed. By 9pm crowds flock to the wall and at midnight the borders are opened fully. Berliners begin to enthusiastically chip away at the wall.



FRANCIS GARY POWERS 1960

An American U-2 spy plane is shot down over Soviet airspace. Pilot Francis Gary Powers is captured and tried for spying, but is released in 1962 in exchange for captured Soviet spy Rudolf Abel.

INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA 1968

Soviet troops lead Warsaw Pact forces in an invasion of Czechoslovakia after the Czech leader Alexander Dubcek introduces liberal and economic reforms known as the Prague Spring.



ABLE ARCHER 1983

NATO countries participate in a mass military exercise that is mistaken by the USSR as the prelude to a real nuclear strike against them.



BERLIN WALL BUILT 1961

Between 1949 and 1961 some three million people leave East Berlin to travel to the West. As a result, on 13 August 1961 the borders are shut and construction of the Berlin Wall begins, dividing the city.



1962

1972 1979

STAR WARS 1983

President Reagan proposes the Strategic Defence Initiative, a space-based anti-missile system nicknamed Star Wars. Although never developed, the concept in itself was intended to threaten the USSR.



GLASNOST 1986

New Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev begins a period of political openness, making the government less secretive and allowing more press freedoms.

1972 DETENTE

Richard Nixon becomes the first US President to visit Moscow when he meets with Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev. This begins the period known as Détente, when relationships between the two nations are vastly improved and tensions ease. The election of Ronald Reagan ends this period.



1979 SOVIET INVASION OF AFGHANISTAN

USSR troops enter Afghanistan in an attempt to support the pro-Soviet government in the capital Kabul. For the next ten years a brutal conflict takes place, killing an estimated one million civilians, 90,000 mujahideen rebel fighters, 18,000 Afghan troops and 14,500 Soviet soldiers.



All images © Getty Images



Inside History

LOCKHEED U-2

United States
1 August 1955
– Present

While Lockheed's U-2 spy plane remains in operation to this day, it is still synonymous with the Cold War era, not least because of some high-profile successes and failures. Originally designed by Clarence 'Kelly' Johnson in 1953, the plane was intended as a response to the seeming intelligence hole the United States was experiencing as the USSR built up its arsenal of weapons. This new plane would enable the US to see what was happening behind the Iron Curtain.

The first test flight for the U-2 took place at a remote airbase in the Nevada Desert, known today as Area 51. The test was successful and the very next year, in 1956, it was put into service by both the United States Air Force and the Central Intelligence Agency. Its early missions were reconnaissance into the USSR, looking for intel into its missile and nuclear weapons programmes. For instance, it was a U-2 plane that spotted the nuclear weapons in Cuba during the 1962 missile crisis. It would also be used to detect nuclear weapons testing in the upper atmosphere.

The primary reason why the U-2 was so successful was the incredible altitudes it could reach – up to 21km. This meant that, while it could still be spotted on radar, it could not be reached by anti-aircraft guns on the ground or by enemy aircraft. That said, one of its most infamous episodes was the U-2 Incident, when the U-2 plane of Francis Gary Powers was shot down on 1 May 1960 by a newly developed Soviet surface-to-air-missile.

The versatility of the plane has meant it has long out-lived its expected lifespan, managing to compete as an intelligence-gathering tool in the age of satellites and supersonic aircraft. Even the advent of drones, expected to send the U-2 into retirement in 2015, has not ended its run and the plane continues to be used by the US military to this day.

WINGSPAN

With a tip-to-tip width of 31.4m, the U-2's wingspan is perfectly tuned to provide lift for its high-altitude missions. While this makes it incredibly well-suited to flight, it's an awkward plane for take-off and landing as its wide wingspan and light weight mean it's easily knocked off balance. Such challenges are what earned it the nickname Dragon Lady.

LANDING GEAR

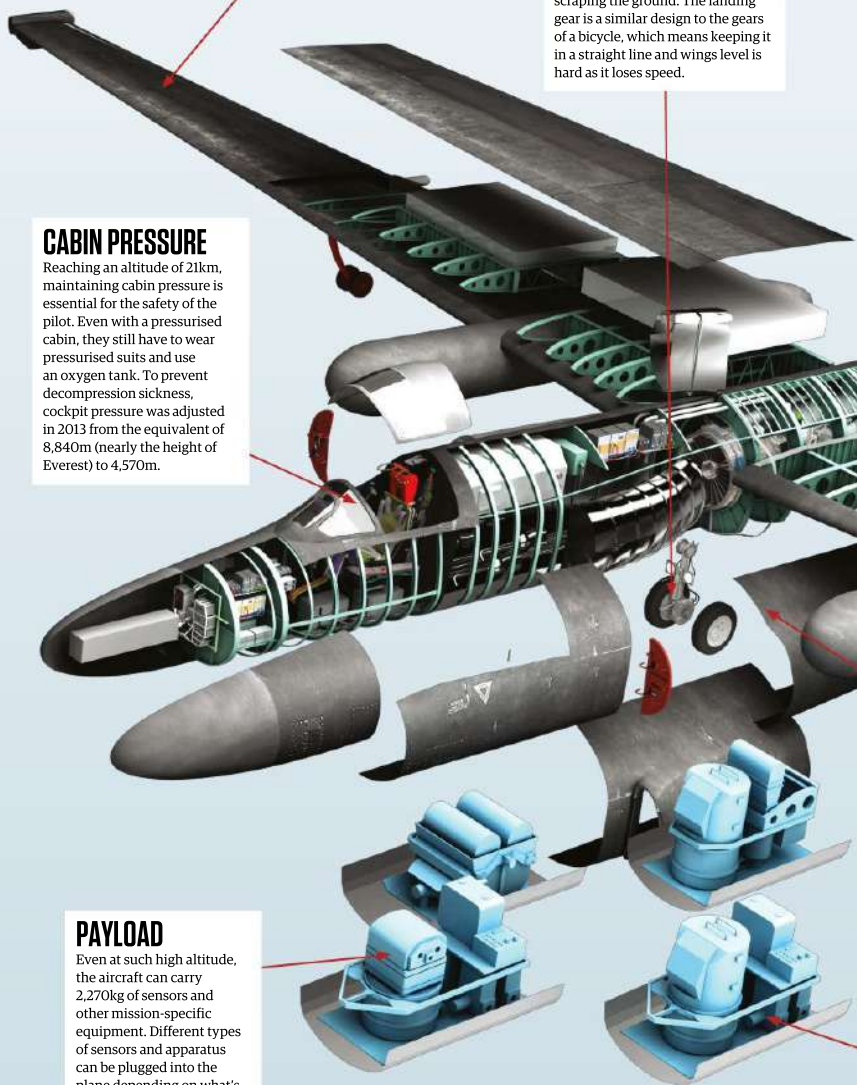
The wheels are behind one another at the front and back, and the plane comes to a stop with one wingtip scraping the ground. The landing gear is a similar design to the gears of a bicycle, which means keeping it in a straight line and wings level is hard as it loses speed.

CABIN PRESSURE

Reaching an altitude of 21km, maintaining cabin pressure is essential for the safety of the pilot. Even with a pressurised cabin, they still have to wear pressurised suits and use an oxygen tank. To prevent decompression sickness, cockpit pressure was adjusted in 2013 from the equivalent of 8,840m (nearly the height of Everest) to 4,570m.

PAYLOAD

Even at such high altitude, the aircraft can carry 2,270kg of sensors and other mission-specific equipment. Different types of sensors and apparatus can be plugged into the plane depending on what's required for its mission.



SENSORS AND DISPLAY

Electro-optical/infrared sensors feed data into the cockpit, presenting information clearly to the pilot. However, while the pilot gets plenty of information about the operation of the plane, the devices and sensors being used are either operated in a preprogrammed automated fashion or remotely from a base on the ground.

ALTITUDE CLIMB

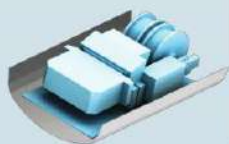
The U-2 is able to climb to 15,240m in about 20 minutes, and 19,812m within an hour of take-off. Remaining at this altitude is incredibly difficult as it requires a fine balance of being fast enough not to stall the engines while not being so fast that the plane is torn apart.



Francis Gary Powers was shot down in 1960 while piloting a U-2

SAFETY CAR

Landing a U-2 is very tricky and requires the help of another pilot giving radio instruction from a safety car. The primary difficulty is that when landing the view from the cockpit is very poor and its wide wingspan makes it vulnerable to instability. To counter this the pilot is given feedback from the ground as the plane approaches the runway.



NASA USE

The U-2 is used for more than just spying and gathering military intel - it's also used by NASA to collect data concerning the atmosphere, the Earth and celestial phenomena. Its high-altitude capability and ability to swap out different tech makes it an ideal flying science lab.

SKUNK WORKS

The U-2 was designed and built by the Skunk Works team at Lockheed, an engineering group that made its name building the US Air Force's first jet in 1943 in just 143 days.



Anatomy

VIET CONG SOLDIER

**Vietnam
1960-75**

IN PLAIN SIGHT

The uniform for the Viet Cong could vary. One of the most common versions was the 'pyjama uniform', with soldiers wearing black long-sleeved shirts rolled to the elbows and black trousers. The purpose of this uniform was to allow members of the Viet Cong to blend in with local peasants.

PACKING LIGHT

A light brown canvas cartridge belt with compartments for ammunition and grenades was one of the few items of equipment carried by the Viet Cong. Soldiers also attached their aluminium water canteens, some of which were captured from the US Army, to the belt.

RESOURCEFUL FOOTWEAR

The Viet Cong typically wore 'Ho Chi Minh' sandals, which were basic open sandals made from old rubber tires. Although they were simple and cheap, these sandals were extremely durable and they quickly became an iconic part of the Viet Cong uniform.

PRACTICAL HEADWEAR

The weather could be very hot in Vietnam and so the Viet Cong usually wore floppy boonie-style jungle hats, either in navy or khaki. However, recruits could also wear straw conical hats - usually worn by rice farmers - as a disguise to help them blend in with the peasants.

UNIQUE SCARF

The khăn rằn, a distinctive black and white checked cloth scarf, was worn by the Viet Cong soldiers. The scarf helped to protect the men and women from insects and branches, especially if they were moving through undergrowth. This scarf could also be used to identify members of the guerrilla force.

WEAPONS OF CHOICE

Among the most common firearms used by the Viet Cong were the Soviet Kalashnikov AK-47 rifle and the SKS carbine. They often used weapons that were produced in China and the Soviet Union, as well as firearms that they captured from their enemies.

FORMIDABLE FORCE

The Viet Cong were the guerrilla force of the National Liberation Front (NLF). Men and women from South Vietnam were recruited by the Viet Cong, who were backed by North Vietnam. Despite their lack of training and equipment, the Viet Cong were able to hold their own against South Vietnamese government forces and US troops.



Historical Treasures

FIALKA MACHINE

The Cold War's most sophisticated cipher device
Poland, 1972

The Fialka is an electromechanical, wheel-based decoding and code-generating machine that was developed after WWII by the Soviets. The codename Fialka, which is actually the name given to the cipher procedure rather than the machine itself, means 'violet' in Russian. These machines worked by scrambling the letters and numbers typed on the keyboard, creating an encryption.

The device was first introduced in 1956 with the M-125 model, which was produced in the Soviet Union. The majority of these models could only encrypt and decode messages in Cyrillic. An improved version, the M-125-3M, was used from 1965 onwards and these are the two basic versions that are known to have been used during the Cold War.

Both of these models were adapted for use by countries of the Warsaw Pact and their allied nations by changing the print heads and the keyboards. As a result, there are Fialka machines with keyboards in languages such as Czech, German and Polish.

The Fialka is based on the Enigma, the famous German cipher machine, which also used electromechanical cipher wheels. However, the Soviets had learnt a lot from the Enigma - which had been cracked by the Allies during WWII - and they ensured that the Fialka was far more secure. For example, it had the ability to encrypt a letter into itself and produce an extraordinary 590 quadrillion combinations, far more than the 17,576 combinations that the Enigma could create. Another key difference

between the Fialka and the Enigma is that the former printed a coded letter onto a paper strip, rather than presenting it on a lamp panel like on the German machine.

The Fialka was used until the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989. When the Warsaw Pact ended in 1991, most of the Fialka machines were dismantled or melted down and, as a result, surviving examples of the device are extremely rare.

The existence of Fialka machines was a closely guarded secret for many years, so very little information about them was available until 2005. This particular Fialka cipher device shown here was used in Poland and dates back to 1972. It is currently housed at the German Spy Museum in Berlin.

WHEELS

There are ten cypher wheels (rotors) in total on the Fialka, each with 30 points. The wheels could turn in opposite directions and they were wired differently for each country. The number of wheels was a vast improvement on the Enigma machine, which had only three or four.

CARD READER

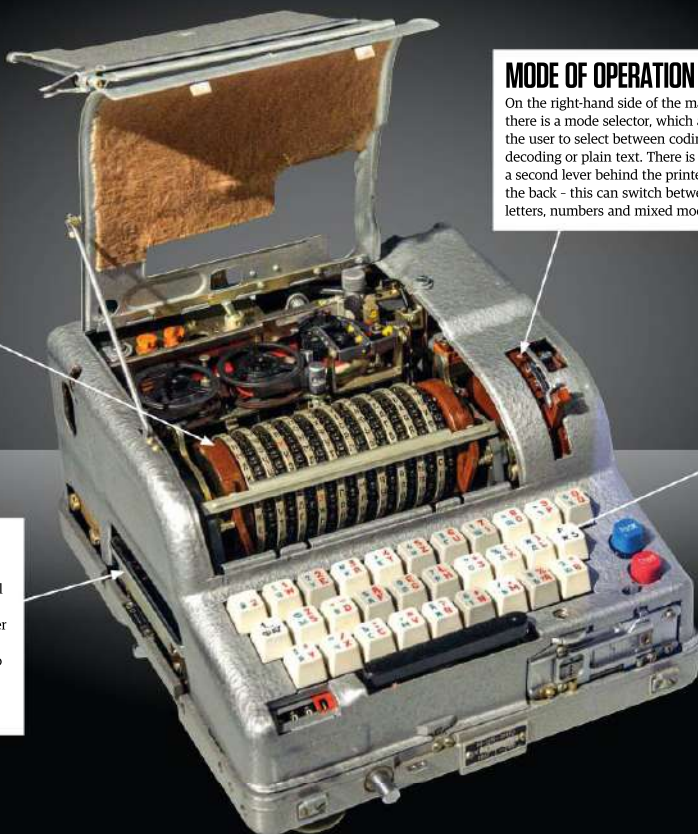
The Fialka has a card reader that can be used to set internal coding parameters using punched paper cards (the paper was so thin it could not be used twice). It is comparable to the plugboards of the Enigma, which were considered one of that machine's weaknesses.

MODE OF OPERATION

On the right-hand side of the machine there is a mode selector, which allows the user to select between coding, decoding or plain text. There is also a second lever behind the printer at the back - this can switch between the letters, numbers and mixed modes.

KEYBOARD

A 30-character keyboard with a black space bar is positioned on the front of the M-125-3M Fialka. It was made with both the Russian language and Cyrillic character set; in an upgrade from the M-125, the keyboard also features numbers and punctuation marks.





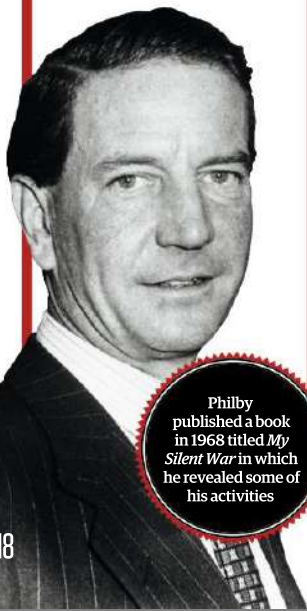
Hall of Fame

COLD WAR DEFECTORS

From spies to sports stars, these men and women switched sides as the Western allies and Soviet Bloc fought a battle of wills

Kim Philby India, 1912-88

A member of the infamous Cambridge Five, Philby was probably the most successful double-agent of the Cold War. Recruited by the USSR while at Cambridge in 1933, he went on to be a journalist before being recruited into MI6 in 1940 by another double-agent, Guy Burgess. He had posts in counterespionage and as MI6 liaison in Washington DC. Alongside feeding classified intel to the USSR, when Burgess and his colleague Donald MacLean were about to be exposed as double-agents in 1951 Philby warned them, aiding their escape. While this raised suspicions and lost him his posting, he avoided complete exposure until he moved to Moscow in 1963.



Philby published a book in 1968 titled *My Silent War* in which he revealed some of his activities



ARKADY SHEVCHENKO

UKRAINE, 1930-98

Holding the distinction of being the highest-ranking diplomat to have defected from the USSR to the United States, Shevchenko arrived in America in 1978 to great fanfare. He had been feeding information to the CIA for just over two years before he finally made the leap to defecting, which surprised many who had identified him as a hard-line communist and rising star in Soviet politics. At the time he was under secretary general at the United Nations, second only to Secretary General Kurt Waldheim.

LEE HARVEY OSWALD

UNITED STATES, 1939-63

While conspiracy theorists will likely debate forever the role Oswald played in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy in 1963, the events leading up to that fateful day seem relatively clear-cut. The biggest is that Oswald moved to the USSR in September 1959, shortly after securing his release from the US Marines, where he's said to have expressed pro-communist views. He settled in Minsk where he met his wife Marina Nikolayevna Prusakova in 1961. He returned to the US with his wife and newborn daughter in June 1962, then tried to go back to the USSR, via Cuba, but was declined.



Martina Navratilova Czech Republic, 1956 - Present

Aged 18 when she made her first appearances at the Federation Cup and US Open in 1975, Navratilova had already been the top-ranked female tennis player in Czechoslovakia for three years. The Czechs

won the Federation Cup and she was beaten in the semis at the Open, but soon after defected to the US and was stripped of her Czech citizenship. She gained US citizenship in 1981, by which point she was

one of the top tennis players in the world, winning Wimbledon in 1978 and 1979. She regained her Czech citizenship in 2008.



Navratilova applied for Czech citizenship in 2008 as she was "ashamed" of the George Bush administration

OLEG GORDIEVSKY

RUSSIA, 1938 - PRESENT

Gordievsky had been the chief of the KGB station in London when he defected from the USSR in 1985. What was seemingly not known back in Moscow when he was promoted earlier that year is that he had been working for MI6 for the past 11 years, feeding them intel. But that secret didn't hold and Gordievsky was summoned back to Moscow, where he was drugged and interrogated. Using a prearranged escape plan, MI6 got him out, but he had to leave his family behind. They were finally reunited, after the fall of the Soviet Union, in 1991.



Ferenc Puskás

Hungary,
1927 – 2006

Considered one of the greatest football players of all time, Puskás scored 83 goals in 84 appearances for the Hungarian national team and won gold at the 1952 Helsinki Olympics. However, when his domestic league team Honved visited Spain for a match in 1956, the Hungarian Revolution broke out and he, along with a number of other players, defected rather than return. He soon signed for Real Madrid, where he would win the European Cup in 1959, 1960 and 1966, five consecutive league titles, and score 512 goals in 528 appearances. He became a Spanish citizen in 1961.



Puskás was voted the sixth best player of the 20th century in 1999, behind the likes of Pele and Maradona



OLIVER HARRINGTON

UNITED STATES, 1912-95

A breakout African-American cartoonist whose work was gaining national recognition while living in the United States, Harrington emigrated to Europe in 1951 to avoid the attention of the FBI

and House Un-American Activities Committee that was targeting vocal civil rights activists such as himself. He first settled in Paris, but a decade later became suspicious of US surveillance and moved to East Germany where he enjoyed a solid career as a cartoonist, often commenting on American affairs to a delighted audience. After the fall of the Soviet Union he began making trips back to the US for public appearances, but still lived in Germany.

NIKOLAI KHOKHLOV

RUSSIA, 1922-2007

When Khokhlov, a member of the MGB (the Soviet security organisation that preceded the more well-known KGB) was ordered to kill anti-Soviet activist George Okolovich in 1953, he decided enough was enough. Instead of arranging for the man's murder, he knocked on Okolovich's door in Frankfurt, warned him he was a target for assassination and promptly handed himself over to American authorities, where he began spilling the beans on secret Soviet operations. This included the potential murder weapon he carried – a cigarette case that fired poison bullets.



Alliluyeva changed her name to Lana Peters after she married architect William Wesley Peters in 1970. They divorced in 1973.

Svetlana Alliluyeva

Russia, 1926 – 2011

Probably the most shocking defection in the history of the Cold War, Alliluyeva was the daughter of former dictator Joseph Stalin and left the USSR for America in 1967. After the death of her third husband in 1966, she was given permission to visit India, his birthplace. She sought out American officials in New Delhi, burned her Soviet passport and gained US citizenship. She soon wrote two memoirs about her life, *Twenty Letters to a Friend* (1967) and *Only One Year* (1969). She returned to the USSR in 1984 and had her citizenship restored, but renounced it again in 1986 after falling out with officials.

Nâzım Hikmet

Greece, 1902-63

Born in Salonika in the Ottoman Empire, now part of Greece, Hikmet was a celebrated Turkish poet and political radical. Having studied economics and political science at the University of Moscow, he returned to his native country in 1924 as a devoted Marxist, promoting Soviet propaganda in the new Turkish Republic. Having been jailed for his activities, he fled Turkey in 1951 and lived in the Soviet Union for the rest of his life.

Hikmet has been referred to as the first modern Turkish poet and claimed his aim was to "depoetize" poetry





Q&A



THE GLOBAL COLD WAR

Professor Odd Arne Westad explains how the Cold War stretched into every corner of the world

Can you explain the term 'Global Cold War'?

It's really describing the latter stage of the Cold War, when it reached into every single corner of the globe. I chose that term because I felt that up to when I wrote that book [*The Global Cold War*] in 2005 that almost all of the Cold War literature had been centred either on the two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union, or on Europe. Some of the most significant effects of the Cold War were outside of Europe and the two superpowers - in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Not in a sense that the Cold War came in from the outside but because it had some kind of effect everywhere. It influenced most things, and mostly for the worse, particularly during the latter phase of the 20th century.

What were some of the hotspots of the Global Cold War?

I would say quite a number of different places. China in the 1940s during the Chinese Civil War and the war in Korea

Professor Odd Arne Westad is the Elihu Professor of History at Yale University. He specialises in Modern International and Global History with a particular focus on East Asia since the 18th century. His books include *Restless Empire: China and the World Since 1750* and *The Global Cold War*.

ABOVE-RIGHT Demonstration for President Mohammad Mosaddegh during the 1953 Iranian coup

BELOW Ethiopian head of state Mengistu Haile Mariam meets Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev in 1978



that followed, almost as a consequence. But you find them all over, in Vietnam during the 1970s and the immediate post-colonial era in Africa. You certainly find this in its own way in Latin America. Much of the most substantial research that's been done lately has to do with the Cold War in Latin America. But almost everywhere you turn - the Middle East, Iran, even India - you find that the Cold War became a predominant theme both in terms of domestic political conflicts and in terms of national development plans.

Could you give us a specific example?

One of the most striking cases that I know of is the Horn of Africa, Ethiopia. Ethiopia went through a revolution that gradually became a socialist revolution in the early 1970s with the overthrow of the ancient monarchy. Then they had a military-led government that was obsessed with national development along socialist and eventually Marxist-Leninist lines, with a massive Soviet assistance programme coming in to facilitate the development. This

ended very badly with very little actual development for the Ethiopian people because the way the plans were undertaken was very much top-down. They were carried out without any major popular participation and presented enormous challenges to the states of Ethiopia and neighbouring Somalia, and [the plans] completely collapsed. Even today I would argue Ethiopia is still struggling with the after-effects.

How important is understanding the interventions by America and the USSR to our understanding of the Cold War as a whole?

It's important to understand the interventionist impulse. The idea you found at that time both in the Soviet Union and the United States was that each felt they had a responsibility for the rest of the world. This is not about obtaining more power or resources; it's closer to European imperialism of the late 19th century in that it's motivated by ideas of control, improvement, reform and progress. The idea was to bring these things to the world, from two very



“Almost everywhere you turn – the Middle East, Iran, India – you find the Cold War became a predominant theme”

different perspectives: socialism from the Soviet Union and capitalism from the US. These ideas fuelled the interventions, but then the interventions themselves became increasingly more intense. As one of my colleagues Melvyn Leffler said in his book [*For The Soul of Mankind: The United States, the Soviet Union, and the Cold War*], it was the battle for the soul of mankind. It became about the future of the world and how that future would develop, and that's what made these interventions so intense.

Can you give us an example of the kind of interventions that both the United States and Soviet Union were undertaking in other parts of the world?

They were diplomatic and propagandist and you also had a lot of covert operations that were not just military operations. So when we talk about intervention we're not talking purely about military intervention. Perhaps the most noticeable one from today's perspective – as the after-effects have not entirely gone away – is the combined British and American operation in Iran in the early 1950s. The aim was to unseat the government there and replace it with a government led by the then-shah, much more to Western liking. There was a covert operation with people on the ground but also a massive propaganda campaign and economic pressure.

In a global context, who were some of the other key players?

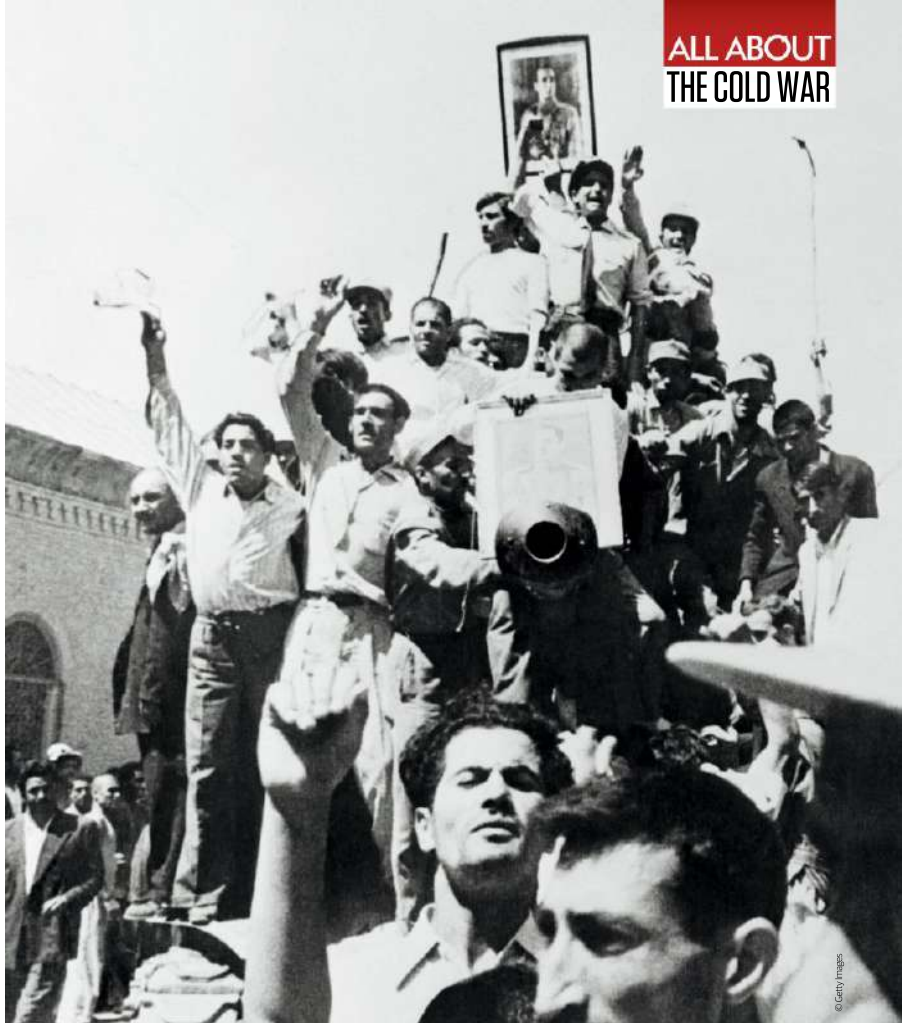
It depends on the stages of the Cold War. Towards the end of the 1940s Britain was a much more powerful player than can sometimes be seen in retrospect, able to work in conjunction with the United States and not always as the junior partner. The intervention in Iran for instance was as much driven by

Britain as by the Americans. However, Britain's influence then gradually became weaker. Japan went in the opposite direction. They were on the losing side of the Second World War, but because of its close cooperation with the Americans it had great opportunities in terms of economic expansion both domestically and eventually also globally – particularly in terms of finance. By the late 1970s and 1980s Japan was a key ally of the United States, not least in the sense that it was able to bankroll much of what the United States was doing internationally at the point when the US government itself probably couldn't. Japan's role is essential in terms of understanding the global nature of the Cold War.

Globally, when did the Cold War end – if indeed you think it has?

The Cold War, within the international system of states, ended very clearly

ABOVE A portrait of the shah is carried triumphantly following the 1953 Iranian coup, which was arranged with both British and American involvement



with the collapse and fall of the Soviet Union. At a global level, if you think about it in ideological terms, the Soviet Union changed entirely in the sense that it disappeared. On the American side, the thinking that had gone into the Cold War didn't change that much. Many of the United States' interventions after the Cold War (Iraq, Afghanistan) are remarkably similar to those that you saw undertaken during the Cold War. It's not surprising in a way because if you believe that the US won the Cold War, there was no reason to change. One of the greatest missed opportunities of the 1990s and early 2000s was that more was not done by the United States, Europe as well as by Britain to try to fashion a new kind of world in terms of international order and international relations. A world that was more cooperative. [But] there was no desire to take up some of the ideas that existed then about common security.



Places to Explore

RELICS OF THE COLD WAR

Explore the remains of communism at these fascinating locations

1 BECHEVINKA KAMCHATKA PENINSULA, RUSSIA

The town of Bechevinka was founded in the 1960s by Nikita Khrushchev as a secret naval base for the submarines of the Soviet Pacific Fleet during the Cold War. Its codename was Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky-54, which combined the name of the regional capital, Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, with the final two digits of the town's postcode. Bechevinka had numerous apartment blocks and amenities such as a school, grocery store, hospital, shop, post office, boiler room and warehouses, but it was so remote that it could only be reached by helicopter or boat across the Pacific Ocean. The site was abandoned in 1996, five years after the Soviet Union collapsed, and ships were left to rot at their moorings. Over the last decade, Bechevinka has become a popular tourist destination, with visitors able to see the dilapidated buildings and objects left behind by former residents. Ferries and tours are available in the summer to take tourists to this eerie but fascinating ghost town.

Various organised tours of the Kamchatka Peninsula, including Bechevinka, are available



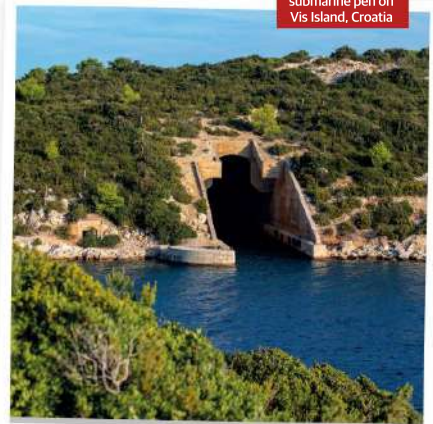
An aerial view of the abandoned apartment blocks in Bechevinka



2 VIS ISLAND VIS, CROATIA

During WWII, Vis Island served as a military base for Allied troops, as well as a hideout for resistance leader and future Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito. The island was given to Yugoslavia after the war ended, and it was converted into a secret naval base. As a paranoid Tito feared being attacked, Vis was closed to all foreigners for the next four decades, and numerous military facilities such as tunnel networks, submarine pens, barracks, and bunkers were built all over the isolated island. Tito's Cave, rumoured to be his personal headquarters, is one of the island's most well-known attractions. After the armed forces abandoned Vis in 1989 it was reopened to tourists, before becoming part of independent Croatia in 1991. Today, Vis' former Cold War sites are a major tourist attraction, with a variety of dedicated tours.

Various organised military tours of Vis Island are available



An abandoned submarine pen on Vis Island, Croatia



Visitors can even order an authentic Soviet-style meal

3 SECRET SOVIET BUNKER SKALUPES, LATVIA

During the Cold War, a huge nuclear bunker was secretly built at the Ligatne Rehabilitation Centre, a health spa of sorts. Although plans for the bunker were laid out in the 1960s, it was not completed until 1982. Given the codename 'Vacation Hotel' and located 9m underground, it was protected by a thick layer of concrete and lead plates. The bunker was a very important strategic hideout designed to shelter the Soviet political elite in Latvia for up to three months. Even the workers at the rehabilitation centre knew nothing about its existence and the bunker was only opened up to the public in 2003. A well-equipped and self-sustaining facility, there is plenty for visitors to see inside the bunker, including conference rooms, an autonomous electrical station, a special telecommunication unit,

various pieces of authentic Soviet memorabilia and books by Karl Marx, Vladimir Lenin and Leonid Brezhnev. There are also camouflaged helipads, two disguised as swimming pools and one as a basketball court, that can be found outside of the main spa building. For those who are interested, you can also enjoy a 1980s Soviet-style meal inside the bunker canteen (this needs to be ordered in advance). It is important to note that it is only possible to visit the bunker by joining one of the centre's pre-booked guided tours, which are available in multiple languages, including English.

Open daily with pre-booked guided tours at 3pm on weekdays and 12pm, 2pm and 4pm at weekends. Tickets: €11 on weekdays and €13.20 at weekends. bunkurs.lv

4 THE COLD WAR MUSEUM PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC

The Jalta Boutique Hotel, one of Prague's most renowned hotels, is home to a large nuclear bunker that was built in the 1950s. It's located around 20m underground and was built to hold around 250 people in the event of a nuclear attack. The basement was also used as a communication centre for the Soviet secret police, who wire-tapped the hotel rooms to eavesdrop on the conversations of guests. The bunker was declassified during the 1990s and was eventually transformed in the Cold

War Museum in 2013. Visitors are able to explore the Room of Border Guards, the Room of Public Security, the Spying Room and the Operator Room. Objects such as communication devices like the telex machine, gas masks and even a 1950s machine gun are on display. The museum also offers an interesting insight into the communist regime of former Czechoslovakia, with various propaganda material on display.

Open daily with pre-booked guided tours at 2:30pm, 3pm and 5:30pm. Tickets: 160 CZK



Inside the secret bunker located under the Jalta

5 MEMENTO PARK BUDAPEST, HUNGARY

This open-air museum is home to over 40 communist statues, created between 1949 and 1989, which were removed after the collapse of communism in Hungary. Instead of destroying the statues, such as those of Lenin, Marx, Engels and soldiers of the Red Army, Memento Park was established to display them. The purpose of the park is not to honour these statues, the people or the communist regime, but to allow visitors to think freely about dictatorship and democracy. A replica of Stalin's giant boots, which remained after a statue of Stalin was torn down during Hungary's October Revolution in 1956, is one of the park's most notable displays. Aside from the statues, Memento Park contains the Barrack Photo Exhibition, which documents the 1956 revolution as well as the end of the communist system in 1989-90. There is also the Barrack Cinema, which features a montage of films used to train secret police agents, teaching them how to hide bugs, search houses, network and recruit others. Visitors can also see an original Trabant car and even enjoy a short ride around the park in the iconic vehicle. Guided tours of Memento Park are available for those who wish to delve deeper into the history of the site and of communism in Hungary.

Open daily from 10am to 6pm (May to October) & 10am to 4pm (November to April) Tickets: 1800 HUF. mementopark.hu

Memento Park is one of Budapest's most unique attractions



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† SPANISH INQUISITION †

HERETIC HUNTERS

Discover the torture tactics and grisly executions that terrorised a nation

Written by Ben Gazur

It is a Sunday in 1481 and you have just been to church. After the celebration of the mass a sermon is read out. The message of the priest is clear - every sinner in town has 30 days grace to come forward and confess their sins. If you fail to confess you may find yourself tied to a stake, screaming in agony as the flames lick up your scorching flesh. Everyone has been warned. If you're a sinner, a heretic, or are simply deemed suspicious then you should expect a call from the Spanish Inquisition.

FOUNDING THE TERROR

The Iberian Peninsula of the 15th century was not unified under Spain as it is today. Nor was it wholly Christian. In the early 8th century the Umayyad Caliphate conquered the Visigothic kingdom of

Hispania and controlled almost the entire Iberian Peninsula. For over 700 years there would continue to be sovereign Islamic states there.

Spain under the Muslims was known as al-Andalus and it became one of the foremost centres of learning in Europe. Scholarship flourished and many Christians travelled there to learn. Because many Greek texts were lost in Europe but had been preserved in Arabic translations there was much that could be learned in al-Andalus that was otherwise unavailable.

The French scholar Gerbert of Aurillac in the 10th century learned mathematics and science in al-Andalus. He reintroduced the abacus and armillary spheres to Europe and encouraged study of Greek and Arabic texts. When Gerbert was elected to the papacy as Sylvester II, however, some saw his Arabic education as a sign of devilry. He was suspected of witchcraft - some said his vast





MASTER OR MONSTER?

The name Torquemada has become synonymous with the worst excesses of the Inquisition

Tomas de Torquemada was born into a prominent Catholic family in 1420. Despite his later campaigns targeting conversos, one of his ancestors had converted from Judaism. Torquemada struck up a friendship with Princess Isabella and became her personal confessor, giving him access to the highest levels of government when she ascended to the throne.

It was during a royal visit to Seville that Torquemada convinced the king and queen of the dangers posed by the city's large population of former Jews and Muslims. When the Inquisition was given papal approval it was Torquemada who became the first Grand Inquisitor, governing the whole operation of hunting down heretics. For his zeal he was called 'the hammer of heretics, the light of Spain, the saviour of his country, the honour of his order'.

Torquemada created the handbook that would shape Inquisition investigations and set out the punishments doled out to heretics. He ruled that torture could only be used once on a suspect, though the Inquisition managed to get around this by declaring a session of torture 'suspended' to allow them to restart it later. His work did say that "reconciled heretics and apostates should be treated with much mercy and kindness", yet many complained of his harshness.

Torquemada may have been less zealous than some of those who followed him as Grand Inquisitor, but he was decisive in getting his monarchs to expel all Jews from Spain in 1492. Those Jewish people who converted in order to stay in Spain then found themselves under the tender ministrations of Torquemada and his Inquisition.

knowledge was derived from a brazen head automaton that he could consult by using magic. Suspicion between faiths was common at the time.

Yet in al-Andalus Muslims, Jews, and Christians managed to coexist in relative peace. Some historians speak of La Convivencia - a spirit of toleration that existed between the faiths. This concept may be a simplification but it is true that many Christians adopted Muslim habits of dress and speech, and Jewish people did not face the persecution they experienced elsewhere in Europe.

For many Christians, however, the presence of Muslim forces in Europe was an affront. Campaigns against al-Andalus began almost at once. These wars, known as the Reconquista, would not stop until the last remnants of the Muslim states in Granada were finally captured in 1492.

The Iberian Peninsula by then was divided into three main kingdoms: Portugal, Castile and Aragon. Castile was ruled by Queen Isabella and Aragon by her husband King Ferdinand II. Together they ruled one of the great powers of Europe and became known as the Catholic Monarchs.

While these two were undoubtedly devout Catholics a question remained; how to protect Catholicism in a realm riddled with those recently converted from Judaism and Islam? The answer was an Inquisition. Inquisitions had been used for centuries across Europe to root out heretics. Cathars, Anabaptists, and Waldensians had all been detected and destroyed by Inquisitors sanctioned by the pope.

In Spain the Inquisition was to be run differently. A papal bull of 1478 granting the formation of an Inquisition in Spain also gave Ferdinand and Isabella unique control of their Inquisition. Instead of acting directly under the pope, the Inquisitors of Spain were appointed by the monarchs.

UNDER SUSPICION

The Spanish Inquisition was a religious institution that had authority only over Christians. Jewish and Muslim people faced so many impediments in Catholic Spain that many had converted to Christianity. These conversos, converts

"If you're a sinner, a heretic, or simply deemed suspicious then you should expect a call from the Spanish Inquisition"

Tomas de Torquemada, Grand Inquisitor of the Spanish Inquisition, with King Ferdinand II and Queen Isabella in 1478

© Getty Images





from Judaism, and moriscos, converts from Islam, were often treated as highly suspect by their Christian neighbours. It was to hunt down 'crypto-Jews' and secret Muslims among these converts that the Inquisition was initially formed.

There had long been a strong anti-Semitic streak in Christian thought and in Spain this was revealed by writers such as Alfonso de Espina. In a work of 1460 he openly accused Jewish people of poisoning wells and murdering children, but he also targeted the conversos. He wrote: "I believe that if a real Inquisition were introduced among us, countless numbers of them would be condemned to the stake; for countless numbers combine the adherence to Jewish customs with the observance of the Christian religion."

This formed the basis of how the Inquisition would operate - hunting down any converso or morisco who still held on to practices from their former religions. When the Inquisitors came to a town or city they would read a sermon that enjoined people to either confess their sins or religious backsliding, or for neighbours to come forward and report those they suspected.

The list of ways that people who were clinging to Judaism could be detected was extensive. Did your neighbour's chimney smoke on a Saturday? That could be a sign that they were observing the Jewish Sabbath. Did they cook with olive oil instead of pork fat? Then they might be observing Jewish dietary laws.

Those who converted to Christianity but were suspected of continuing to be Muslim could expect to meet the Inquisition if one of their neighbours saw them keeping Friday as a holy day, wearing clean clothes at suspicious times, or failing to drink wine. Even giving your child a Moorish name was enough to bring the Inquisitors calling.

Even death was not enough to escape the attentions of the Inquisition - after you were dead your sins and activities could still be investigated. If you were found guilty then you could be burned in effigy. No one escaped the Inquisition.

After the expulsion of Jews from Spain in 1492 following the Alhambra Decree, and the renegeing on a promise to respect Muslims' faith in Grenada, many thousands of people converted to Christianity to escape deportation.



LEFT & INSET
Following the capture of Grenada in 1492 Ferdinand and Isabella had to decide how to deal with their new Muslim subjects

BELOW The spread of the Spanish Empire into the New World allowed for the spread of Inquisition tactics to new domains





TOP Public shame of those tried by the Inquisition was a tool used to scare the population towards orthodoxy

ABOVE Those dragged to an auto-da-fé were forced to wear distinctive clothes that marked them out as heretics and apostates

Their conversions, however, brought them under the watchful jurisdiction of the Inquisition.

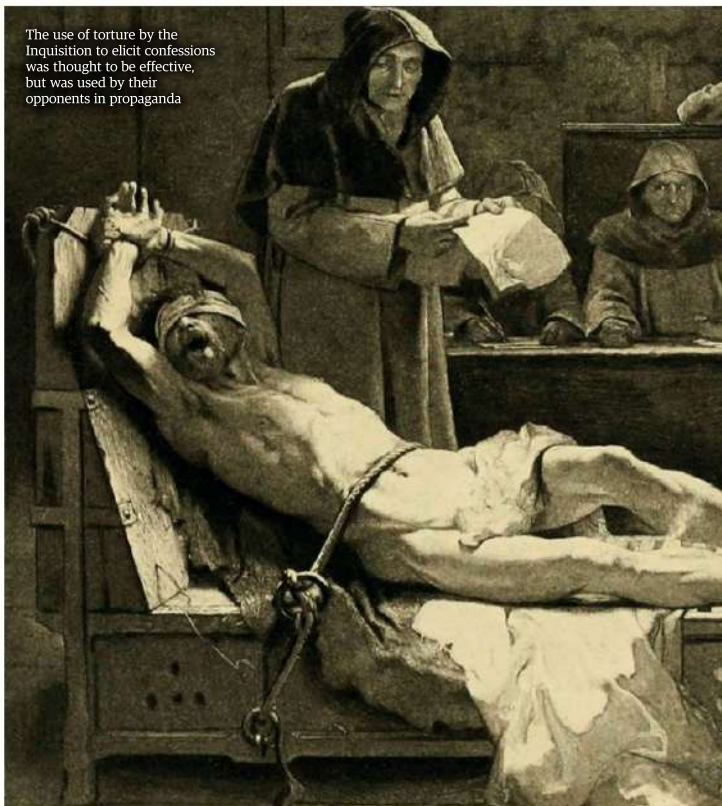
THE COMING OF THE INQUISITORS

Once the Inquisition arrived in a place the 30 days of grace began in which you could either come forward to confess any wrongdoing, or tell them of a neighbour's crimes. Once the period of grace ended the Inquisition would move swiftly. The first sign that you were under suspicion might be a knock on the door.

People who were taken by the Inquisition simply disappeared from society. You might not see a friend for a year or two before they suddenly reappeared. The actions of the Inquisition were kept entirely secret. Agents of the Inquisition were told: "Keep silence as far as the king and the Inquisition are concerned!" Even prisoners were forbidden from revealing what they had seen in Inquisition prisons once released.

This veil of silence was necessary, according to the Inquisition, to keep them

The use of torture by the Inquisition to elicit confessions was thought to be effective, but was used by their opponents in propaganda



independent and fair in the operation of justice. But for those living under their glare it only increased the fear. Thankfully, the Inquisition kept impeccable records of their activities so it's possible to reconstruct how the Inquisition operated.

Once an accusation, or a confession, was heard by the Inquisition the charges were investigated. If they felt that a hearing was warranted then the suspect would

lapse, a moral failing, or the holding of heretical doctrines. Confession at this stage would require the prisoner to name any others they knew to hold similar beliefs. Inquisition bred further inquisition. Confession was called "the queen of evidence", and was also considered to be good for the soul.

If a person remained obdurate in their protestations of innocence then a trial

"People who were taken by the Spanish Inquisition simply disappeared from society"

be seized. Any goods the suspect owned would also be taken to pay for their period of incarceration. Once inside one of the Inquisition's prisons the suspect was held in solitary confinement, the better to consider the state of their soul.

During the course of several hearings over multiple weeks questions would be posed to the suspect by the Inquisitors. The aim was to discover whether the actions of the prisoner pointed to a single

would be called. The prisoner would have a defence counsellor, but one appointed by the Inquisition. While all Inquisitors were supposed to be highly trained in the law, the process was not one that would be called fair today.

The prisoner was able to defend themselves through the use of whatever evidence they could gather, whether witnesses or written proof. They could also offer explanations for why they may have





been acting in an 'un-Christian' way. One converso suspected for not eating pork when offered claimed their abstinence was on medical grounds, not religious.

Accusations from others against the captive were read out, but the names of accusers were withheld. It was all too easy for a person with a grudge against a 'New Christian' to create a charge against their neighbour. Of course, if a person failed to confess there was a final weapon in the arsenal of the Inquisition - torture.

It's thought that around a quarter of those who were accused of a major heresy, or of being a secret Jew or Muslim, were tortured. Those who then confessed their crimes would be questioned a day later to ensure they had not spoken out through pain alone.

With all evidence gathered, a vote would be taken by the Inquisitors to decide on the guilt of an individual and then on what the appropriate punishment would be. The official judgement would only be revealed later to the accused in front of thousands of spectators, watching justice being done

in the town square. Looking at a single case in the Inquisition files can reveal much about how 'justice' was administered by this terrifying process.

When the conversa Marina Gonzalez confessed during a period of grace announced in Toledo in 1484, she was forced to admit all the ways she still held to Jewish practices. These ranged from observing the Sabbath all the way down to eating unleavened bread. As well as naming her own sins she named the men she claimed had led her into sinful ways. Gonzalez was reconciled to the Church and let go.

Unfortunately, the Inquisition never forgot what it had heard and a confession could be used against a person years later. In 1494 Gonzalez was hauled in front of the Inquisition again. The prosecutor claimed she had returned to her sins "like a dog to its vomit". She was named as a heretic and apostate.

After the presentation of witnesses and counter-witnesses the Inquisitors voted to put Gonzalez to the 'water torture'. After

BELOW This painting of an auto-da-fé held in Madrid in 1680 shows the large crowds that attended such events



26 © Getty

TORTURE FOR THE TRUTH

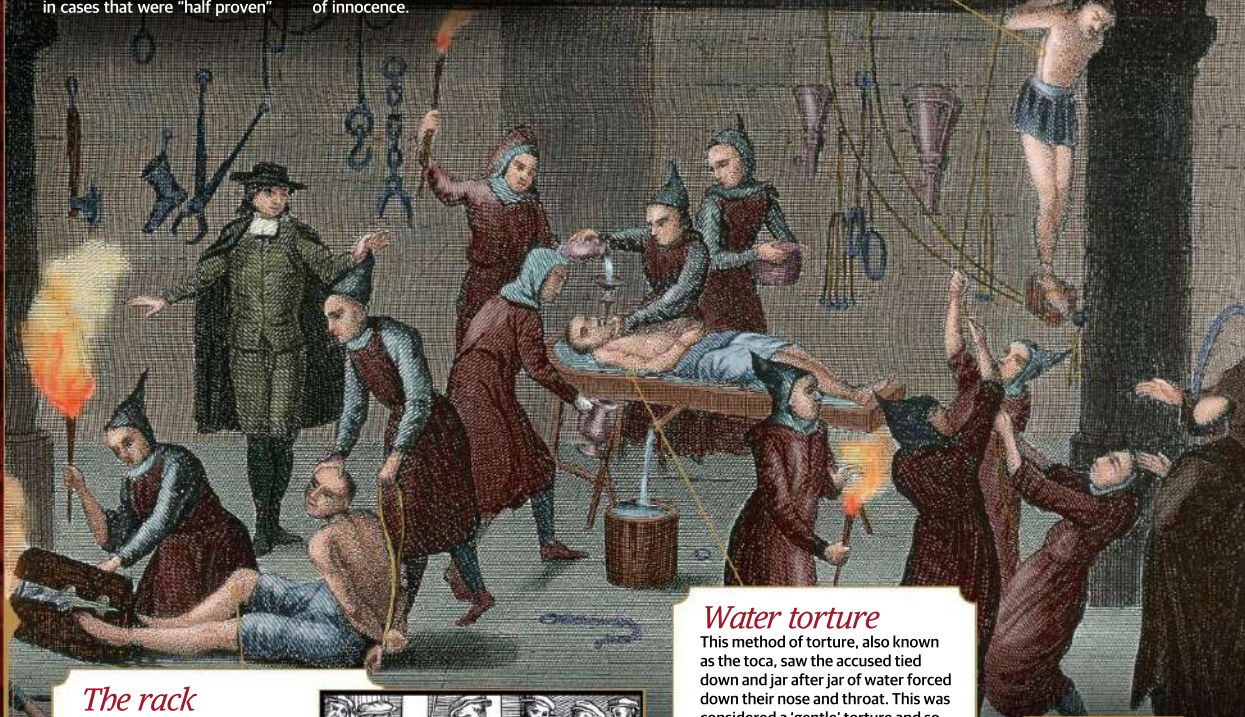
Torture was one of the means by which the Inquisition brought heretics to confess their sins

Confession was the aim of the Spanish Inquisition. To return a heretic or apostate to the Catholic fold the Inquisition had to get the wrongdoer to confess, otherwise they would forever remain outside the church. They also had to uncover the truth. Their handbook declared that in cases that were "half proven"

the accused could be tortured. Because the Inquisition was not supposed to draw blood or mutilate their prisoners their methods of torture were necessarily inventive. With just three methods they managed to draw confessions from those who failed to provide them with proof of innocence.

Strappado

The prisoner had their hands tied behind their back and a rope was attached to them. They were then pulled upwards by a pulley called the garrucha. The prisoner was then dropped suddenly. When the rope snapped taut the force dislocated the arms from their sockets. Should the prisoner's arms remain in place then weights could be added to the feet and the process repeated.



The rack

One of the most common forms of torture was to strap a prisoner to the rack. While other forms of torture on the rack pulled prisoners until their joints snapped the Spanish Inquisition used constriction in their torture. The ropes tying the accused down could be twisted and tightened so they dug into the flesh of the prisoner. This could be done on the arms, legs, and skull of the victim.



Water torture

This method of torture, also known as the toca, saw the accused tied down and jar after jar of water forced down their nose and throat. This was considered a 'gentle' torture and so was often used on women.



Thanks to Inquisition records we know the exact words of some of its victims. One woman who was being tortured is documented as saying: "Gentlemen, for God's sake, have mercy on me. Oh Lord! Take these things off my arms, sir, let go of me, they are killing me!"



warning her that "if during the torture some evil, damage, wound, or death occurred to her, it would be her fault and not theirs" she was stripped and put on the rack. A hood was placed over her head and water poured down her nose and throat. After several rounds of this she named others as secret Jews but would not confess her own crimes.

Having been held longer in prison, Gonzalez refused to eat. This was taken as an attempt to kill herself - another sin. The Inquisition was unanimous in its judgement: Gonzalez was guilty. She was "a relapsed heretic and an apostate". She was excommunicated, stripped of all her possessions and handed over for punishment. On 30 June 1494 Gonzalez was burned at the stake.

FIERY ACTS OF FAITH

The auto-da-fé, Portuguese for 'act of faith', was one of the most spectacular events that many Spanish people would see in their entire lives. Often held in the main square of a town the auto-da-fé was the final step in the process of the Inquisition. Although the guilty had already been sentenced, the first they might hear of their fate would be there, under the eyes of a vast crowd.

The event was always held with great pomp. The auto-da-fé was not only designed to punish the wicked but to warn those who observed it of the consequences of heresy. They were held on public holidays to ensure maximum attendance, and heralds blew horns and paraded through the streets with the banner of the Inquisition to gather the crowd. There was also the suggestion that to miss it would be to risk excommunication. There would be an unforgettable show for any who wanted to watch.

Events began early with a mass held in the local church. Next came the procession of the sinners. One witness of an auto-da-fé recalled: "The men were all together in a group, bareheaded and unshod, and since it was extremely cold they were told to wear soles under their feet which were otherwise bare; in their hands were unlit candles [a symbol of their extinguished faith]. The women were together in a group, their heads uncovered and their faces bare, unshod like the men and with candles... With the bitter cold and the dishonour and disgrace they suffered from the great number of spectators (since a great many people from outlying districts had come to see them), they went along



TOP Victims of the Inquisition were imprisoned for long periods and subjected to torture

ABOVE The grisly Inquisition inspired Edgar Allan Poe's *The Pit and the Pendulum*

BELOW In this illustration, monks with quill and paper await the torture victim's confession



howling loudly and weeping and tearing out their hair, no doubt more for the dishonour they were suffering than for any offence they had committed against God."

The sinners were led into the square wearing sanbenitos - sackcloth garments worn by the prisoners to mark them out. Those of the repentant were slashed with red, those who refused to confess their crimes were given sanbenitos decorated with the flames of hell.

In the square the prisoners were presented before the Inquisitors, who sat on a raised stage. Each prisoner was then in turn addressed and every particular of their crimes was read aloud for the whole town to hear. Each was then given the penance that the Inquisition judged to be fair.

Even if you escaped with your life the penance may have had lifelong effects. One penance declared: "For the next six Fridays the penitents should promenade through city streets wearing neither shoes nor hats, scourging bared shoulders with cords of hemp. And it was prescribed,

"It is thought that around 4,000 people were executed for their heresy"

moreover, that they should fast on these Fridays, and that for the rest of the days of their lives they should hold no public office... nor wear silk, nor fine scarlet cloth or any coloured fabric, nor gold or silver, nor pearls or coral or any other jewels."

For some the punishment would be a sum of money. Others might get a public flogging. Some faced perpetual imprisonment while others were forced to move into a monastery for a period of years. Perhaps the most fearsome sentence, other than death, was to be sent to work the oars on a galley. Terms of eight years at the oar might well prove to be a life sentence.

Even once the penance was paid there could be more punishments for those found guilty. To be found guilty a second time, after being reconciled to the faith, led to increased penalties. The sanbenito that you had worn to the auto-da-fé would be hung in the local church, emblazoned with your name so that you would never forget your transgressions. When Martin de Enzinas was executed in 1496 for secretly

practising Islam it took his family until 1550 for the *sanbenito* to be taken down and escape the shame.

The worst fates were meted out to those guilty of major heresy who refused to repent of their crimes - these people were known as *relajados*. Their crimes were too serious for the Inquisition to punish so the prisoner was 'relaxed' to the secular arm of the state. Those who were to be put to death were told of their punishment the night before the *auto-da-fé* so that they might have one final chance to repent. Repentance at this point might mean you were mercifully strangled before the fire was lit. Those who refused to repent were carried to a place of execution on the outskirts of the town where they were tied to the stake and incinerated while still alive.

You could not escape entirely just by having fled the country or dying before your punishment. Those who were absent from the *auto-da-fé* were burned in effigy, because the Inquisition knew what the true purpose of the *auto-da-fé* was: one

Inquisition text stated that "the end of the trial and execution is not the salvation of the soul of the accused, but it is to achieve the public good by terrorising the people".

THE END OF THE TERROR

The Spanish Inquisition was one of the most feared arms of the state from 1480 until it was finally abolished in 1834. In that time it is thought that around 4,000 people were executed for their heresy. Half of these deaths occurred in the first few decades of the Inquisition's ministry - it seems that fear of the Inquisition may have been effective.

There were acts of resistance to the actions of the Inquisition. Some powerful lords limited the role of the Inquisition in their domain and some religious groups also opposed it. Friar Hernando de Talavera wrote that "neither the Jew nor the Moor should be punished for keeping their faith... nor should they be forced to adhere to the Catholic faith".

RIGHT The burning of apostates and heretics was officially done by the secular arm of the Spanish state



BELOW-LEFT
An 18th century engraving depicting people being burned in Lisbon, Portugal

BELOW-MIDDLE
Those sentenced to burn at the stake were dressed *sanbenitos* decorated with devils, dragons, and the flames that awaited them

BELOW-RIGHT
Francisco Goya's *Night Scene from the Inquisition*, 1810

THE BLACK LEGEND

The propaganda use of the Spanish Inquisition by Protestants

Throughout the 16th century Spain largely managed to keep out Protestants and their Reformation. The Inquisition was always on the hunt for heretics and managed to destroy any books that sought to bring the thinking of Calvin or Luther into their territories. Yet the kings of Spain ruled vast domains that included many Protestants.

Under Philip II of Spain rumours spread that he wished to introduce the Spanish Inquisition to the Netherlands. Books and pamphlets began to spread about the horrors this would bring. One, written under the pseudonym Montanus, was called *A Discovery and Plaine Declaration of Sundry Subtill Practices of the Holy Inquisition of Spain*. John Foxe's famous *Book of*

Martyrs included a whole chapter on "The execrable Inquisition of Spayne". Woodcuts and illustrations spread images of the tortures the Inquisition used.

For hundreds of years the Inquisition was used to paint Spain as a backwards and cruel nation. During the enlightenment Voltaire included an *auto-da-fé* in his novel *Candide* and describes how the burning of heretics was believed to prevent earthquakes.

Some historians have questioned the common view of the Inquisition. How much torture was really used? How many victims died? Was it anti-Semitic? With better access to the Inquisition's own records these questions are beginning to be explored.





Even the pope wrote once that the Inquisition needed reform, declaring: "Many true and faithful Christians, because of the testimony of enemies, rivals, slaves and other low people, and still less appropriate, without tests of any kind, have been locked up in secular prisons, tortured and condemned like relapsed heretics, deprived of their goods and properties, and given over to the secular arm to be executed, at great danger to their souls, giving a pernicious example and causing scandal to many."

Despite complaints about their brutal methods only two Inquisitors were killed while doing their duties. One, Pedro de Arbues, was assassinated - apparently at the hands of a converso conspiracy. The other was Juan Lopez De Cisneros, who was killed by the monk he was interrogating when the prisoner angrily swung his chains at the Inquisitor.

Over time, the role of the Inquisition changed. At first its targets were mainly the former Jewish and Muslim

"Bigamy, sodomy and simple fornication all fell under the Inquisition's dominion"

populations, but as they integrated into the wider population minor heresies and sins became its focus. Bigamy, sodomy and simple fornication all fell under the Inquisition's dominion. In fact, over its entire history the majority of cases brought before the Inquisition were for sins such as these.

The Reformation gave the Inquisition a new set of targets - those who tried to introduce Protestant reforms to Catholic Spain. Ironically, it may have been the Enlightenment that extended the life of the Inquisition as the doubts of the philosophes had to be stopped from spreading into Spain.

The Inquisition was finally suppressed in 1834. There would be no more secret trials, burnings or the compiling of dossiers against suspected sinners. Even books that had been banned by the Inquisition were liberated. Yet the legacy of the Spanish Inquisition is one that has yet to be washed out of history of the Catholic Church. ○





Written by Jonathan Gordon

Celebrated author and journalist Lloyd Bradley reveals the origins of reggae music and the making of its biggest stars

Emerging from the newly independent Caribbean island of Jamaica in the late 1960s, reggae is one of the most popular forms of global music. While it ranges in rhythms and tempos, it has come to represent a very particular world view of lifting up the oppressed, speaking for the voiceless and celebrating life and love. With massive international stars like Bob Marley and Jimmy Cliff, there must be few people in the world who aren't familiar with reggae. But how much do you know about the history of the music and the social movement that helped launch it? We sat down with Lloyd Bradley, author of *Bass Culture: When Reggae Was King*, to get the full picture of this vibrant and enriching musical movement.

What were some of the musical traditions of Jamaica before reggae?

For a long time, or forever really, Jamaica didn't actually have its own music. There was a folk music called mento and people keep talking about mento as the foundation of reggae, but it's not really. The influence on what became Jamaican music, which essentially was ska, was American R&B and rasta drumming.

Jamaica, very oddly, had a music business before it had any music of its own. The sound systems that ran in Jamaica, the people who owned them like Coxsone Dodd, Duke Reid and Prince Buster, would go to America to buy R&B records and they would play them at their open-air dances.



Bob Marley was the biggest star to emerge from Jamaica, becoming an icon not just for reggae music, but for oppressed people around the world

EXPERT BIO



LLOYD BRADLEY

With 40 years' experience as a music journalist and cultural commentator, Bradley is a celebrated music writer and author. His best-selling books include *Bass Culture: When Reggae Was King* (Penguin), a definitive work on the history of reggae, and *Sounds Like London: 100 years of Black Music in the Capital* (Serpent's Tail).

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One of the first significant things to happen was when Prince Buster launched his big sound system and he wanted to go to America to buy records for it but he couldn't - because his hands were too soft! The Jamaicans that would travel to the States would be on a work visa, which would essentially be for cutting sugar cane. They were cane field labourers and were very good at it, because of the cane fields in Jamaica. Before they could get on the boat to go to Florida to do cane cutting, the soldiers on the docks would line them up and look at their hands to make sure they were genuine cane cutters, that they had hard, callused hands. And, of course, Prince Buster had never cut a piece of cane in his life. The soldier looked at his hands, rubbed them and said, "No, no, you're not cutting cane. You're not a cane cutter." He was left with this sound system built and no music to play on it, so he decided to record his own. But instead of simply recording American-style R&B, which might have had a few little tweaks to it but nothing that you could recognise, he involved Rasta drummers in what he was doing because he believed that they were the true expression of working class Black Jamaica, and he wanted that reflected in his music. He knew this guy, Count Ossie, and his drummers. He was a regular visitor to Count Ossie's Rasta camp in the Wareika Hills, so he convinced them to come down and record. That was when *Oh Carolina* was recorded in 1958 and that was really spoken about as the first milestone of a popular song, a dancehall song that reflected Jamaica and its people.

How important was the sound system, street music scene to the development of reggae?

If it weren't for sound systems there wouldn't be any Jamaican music. As soon as Jamaican music strays away from its sound system base, it kind of loses the will to live. That is the life blood of it. Up until very, very recently every record producer had a sound system and the recording business was a spin-off from the sound systems, not the other way around. We're talking about Jamaica in the late 50s, 60s, and into the 70s

"If it weren't for sound systems there wouldn't be any Jamaican music"

ABOVE Outdoor sound system events fuelled the local economy, with drinks, food and more sold nearby

BELOW While independence was celebrated, Jamaica endured many struggles as the British government left little behind to build on



and up until the late 80s, an awful lot of Jamaican households didn't have electricity. There were a couple of radio stations but it wasn't until the 70s that there was anything reflecting Jamaican tastes. Before that it was two radio stations essentially running on the lines of the BBC, a hangover from colonial days. They were aimed at the uptown middle classes rather than Jamaican people, the ghetto people. So their entertainment was sound systems. The idea of a dance with a big band wasn't economically viable when you've got people with virtually no money. However, the sound system was a different affair entirely and, of course, it's all open air because it so rarely rains, except in the rainy season. They rigged up all of the equipment and people came. A lot of the dances were actually free to get in because they were sponsored by drinks companies. They could sell a load of beer if people were coming to a dance, so they would sponsor dances. Coxsone Dodd's parents had a liquor business, which helped with his sound systems. Duke Reid, the other big sound system guy, had his own liquor business. It was the entertainment, it was what you did. Sound systems were massive - big ones, small ones - through the 60s.

What was Jamaica like when reggae began to emerge?

Independence came in 1962 and at first the mood was really celebratory. The music was very upbeat, there were a lot of celebratory songs about Jamaica and freedom. That went on probably for about five years, but that started to run out of steam. Then the beginning, or the stirrings, of roots reggae happened. You had rocksteady in between, which was a much slower, more melodic, very vocal style, whereas ska was 80 per cent instrumental. The story goes - and I have no idea if this is true or not, but it's a very, very good story - that sound system operators were looking for something to supersede ska; and apparently one year was ridiculously hot in Jamaica, which meant people couldn't dance fast to ska so they needed something much slower, and rocksteady developed out of that.

Rocksteady and actual reggae are very close. It represented a change in attitude. There was a generation coming through that really didn't know anything other than independence. If you were eight when that happened, you would now be about 15 or 16 [in the mid 70s] and you didn't know anything other than independence, and it hadn't improved people's lives. If anything, it had made their lives worse because the English made sure that Jamaica was of no commercial value at all to them when they gave it back. That's standard colonialism.



MOVIE MATTERS

Why *The Harder They Come* changed everything

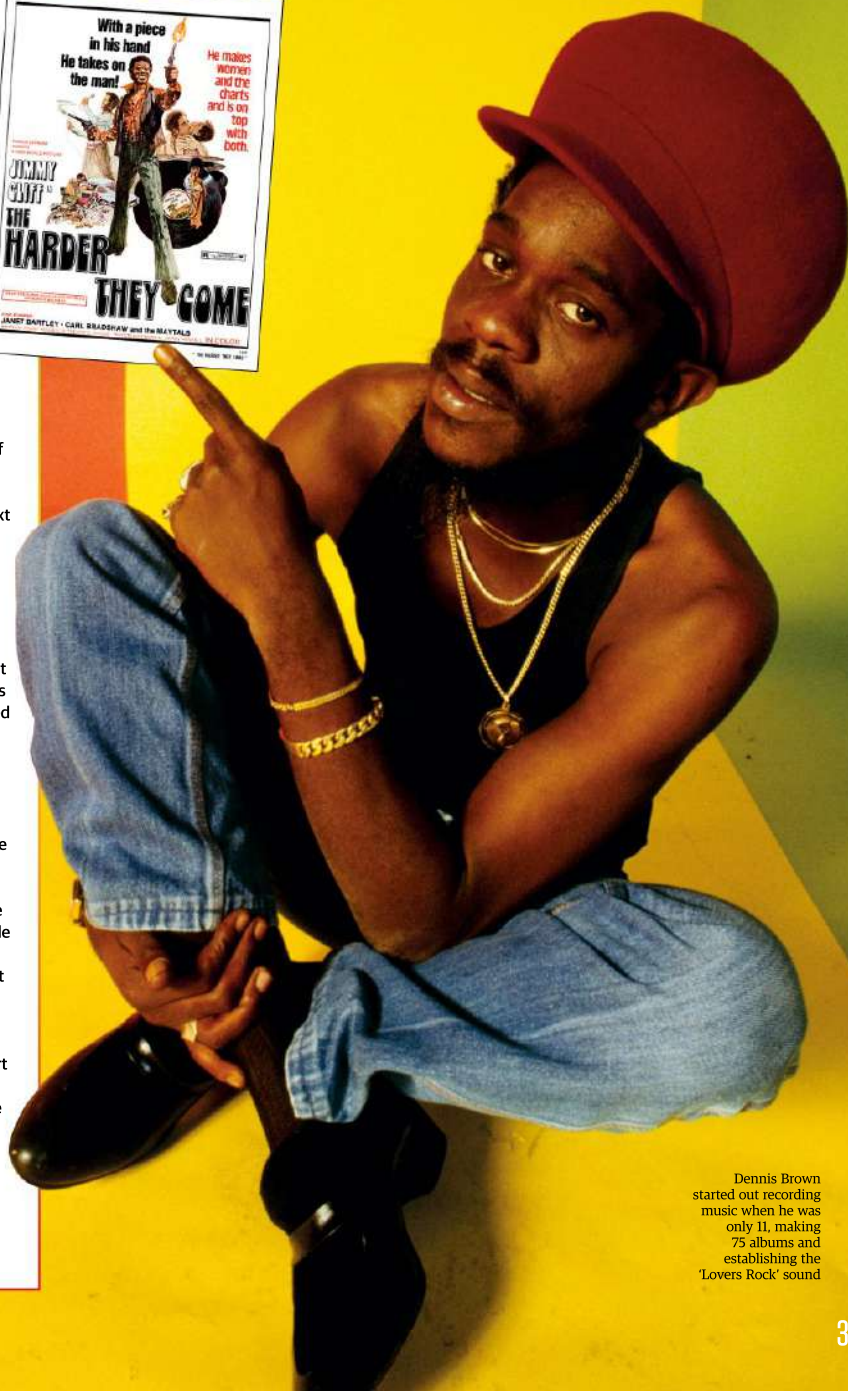
When it comes to the question of when reggae burst out from the confines of Jamaica to become a global music phenomenon, Lloyd Bradley has no doubts as to the key cultural moment that changed everything. "It's *The Harder They Come*. It's that simple," he tells us. "*The Harder They Come* was huge in London because there's a huge Jamaican population there, and in other cities like in Coventry and Bristol and so on. From there it spread outwards: it spread to the Continent - to France, Italy and Germany - and to Scandinavia."

Released in 1972 and starring Jamaican ska and reggae singer Jimmy Cliff, *The Harder They Come* follows a Jamaican outlaw named Ivan (loosely based on a real-life figure called Rhygin) as he tries to make a name for himself as a musician. Bradley explains that as the hippie generation was fading out, reggae offered the new sound of rebellion for the next generation: "There was another generation of consumers coming up that expected their pop music to mean something, or it was a bonus if it did. I think *The Harder They Come* showed the world that reggae could mean something and that was the moment. People talk about the meteoric rise of Bob Marley, but *The Harder They Come* was before that and it's unlikely that his rise would have been accepted the way it was had *The Harder They Come* not created the environment."

What really made this the moment reggae broke through, however, was that as a film it offered a window into what Jamaica was really like. "It wasn't just records that someone was going to play on the radio," says Bradley.

"It's an exceptionally well-made film considering the circumstances it was made under. And it really is quite immersive with that fantastic soundtrack. It's like you're right there.

There's no golden beaches and that sort of thing - you really are inside the reggae music industry."



Dennis Brown started out recording music when he was only 11, making 75 albums and establishing the 'Lovers Rock' sound

Protests started building up and people expressed themselves through music and roots reggae. It was a statement against the way that the country was being run after independence. That changed the style of the music - it became much earthier - and Rastafari swept the country. That started the whole rebel culture, which became very, very attractive to Western audiences. Until then, nobody had been interested in reggae at all. There were a few hits on *Top Of The Pops* that were pop music, and it was seen as a bouncy form of pop music, but then suddenly it was like it had a meaning. I think [1972 Jamaican film] *The Harder They Come* did an awful lot for that, because there were no pop videos then. You had no idea what reggae looked like, except you would get some bloke and a woman on *Top Of The Pops* wearing pastel-coloured polyester suits. That was it. That's all you would see. Then, suddenly, *The Harder They Come* put it in context and it became meaningful. Suddenly there was a whole culture behind reggae. It meant something. Because that film was so popular across the world it introduced reggae to a new audience. Hippies had sort of died out by that point, there had been the Altamont Free Concert [where several people had died] and it seemed like the hippie dream was over. And then, suddenly, here was this kind of ready-made rebellion. This new audience had also fought the system, they made pretty good music, they didn't cut their hair - and they smoked loads of weed as well. Reggae created this really attractive rebel persona for people to adopt. Bob Marley, Burning Spear, The Mighty Diamonds and Jimmy Cliff (to a degree) almost became shorthand for a global rebellion movement. Different youth cultures around the world just adopted roots reggae as its de facto soundtrack for rebellion. Marley became a global superstar and the other acts all did very, very well out of it.

How close was the relationship between reggae music and the Rastafari religion that are now so closely related to each other in people's minds?

It was very close because Rasta had been there since the 1930s when what became a Rasta settlement, Pinnacle, was established up in the hills in Jamaica. It was the sort of history that wasn't written about - it wasn't colonial history. The history of the Maroons [escaped enslaved people] and the history of the settlement of Pinnacle were these acts of rebellion that were quite serious. These histories gave the majority of Jamaicans, who were Black working class Jamaicans, something to believe in.

It's wrong to say that everybody in Jamaica was Rasta-sympathetic - they weren't. They're a very religious society and the Christians in Jamaica just didn't get it. The authorities were actually terrified of Rasta and the potential for rebellion. They had never managed to beat the Maroons a couple centuries before and the Pinnacle settlement went on for ages before they could actually overrun it. There were the Rose Hall riots and there were loads of little riots and uprisings going on, and Rasta and dreadlocks were becoming far more prominent. The authorities would launch some horrific crackdowns on Rasta as it started to take root in the cities, in West Kingston, and

"Bob Marley transcended his own music and became an enormous global figure"



the police would pick dreads off the street and shave their dreadlocks off. Meanwhile, the music and the sound systems that could play Rasta-sympathising music became a focal point for what they believed in and what they could do. This is why Prince Buster went to find Count Ossie and his Rasta drummers to be part of the music he was creating because he said he was creating music for the Jamaican working classes.

We should finish by talking about Bob Marley. What do you think was it about him that made him special and a standout reggae artist?

It was a combination of things, and the timing was exactly right. It was post-*The Harder They Come*, and Chris Blackwell's Island Records already had a global distribution network. It was almost like a bold experiment: could he take a Jamaican and turn them into a rock star? Blackwell wanted to do it with Jimmy Cliff, but Cliff wouldn't have it. Cliff had left Island Records at that time. He had a deal in the pipeline with Warner Bros, which he figured would be bigger than Island because it had a presence in America, which Island didn't really have.

The Wailers, more so than Marley at this point, had promised Blackwell an album because he'd given them money to buy plane tickets when they were literally stranded in London. They went to see him and Blackwell gave them the money for their tickets home and they promised that they would deliver him their next album, which they did. And that was *Catch A Fire* (1973). Blackwell saw something in Marley that the other two in the band, Peter and Bunny, didn't have. I believe musically it was a three-legged stool but in terms of charisma neither Peter or Bunny could have fronted The Wailers in the way Marley did.

I only ever met Marley once, and in the charisma stakes it was actually not unlike the only time I met [The Velvet

ABOVE Rastafari became a popular movement in Jamaica, as seen here with massive crowds awaiting Haile Selassie I of Ethiopia, who was seen as a messiah and prophet



TOP Prince Buster's introduction of Rasta drumming to ska and rocksteady records helped pave the way for reggae

ABOVE Lee 'Scratch' Perry was a producer, performer and pioneer of roots reggae music

Underground singer] Lou Reed, who also had that charisma coming off him in waves. Marley was very charming and also very ambitious. He wanted to be a global superstar, Peter and Bunny didn't. The name was changed from The Wailers to Bob Marley and the Wailers because it was easier to market one bloke rather than one bloke and his two stropky mates, which was essentially the Wailers! They made sure he had a guitar and his dreadlocks could be shaken from side to side. He looked like the conventional idea of a rock star.

Marley was an absolutely dynamic stage performer, which a lot of Jamaican artists weren't because they didn't do big stage productions and they didn't do a lot of live work. Reggae was very much a recorded form in the beginning, but Marley enjoyed performing. He loved performing and was very, very, very good at it. That was the perfect storm. The only thing is that, I believe, it was never what it could have been musically. I think the best songs that Marley ever wrote were the songs he wrote with Peter and Bunny and the Wailers, and so many of them cropped up later on Bob Marley albums. I think by the end of it being Bob Marley was kind of more important than the music.

Marley had transcended his own music, in a way. He had become an enormous global figure, which was fantastic for a Jamaican (or for anybody) to do that. What he did in the name of oppressed people around the world was absolutely fantastic because you can go anywhere in the world and talk about Bob Marley and they get what you mean. But musically there was quite a sharp decline. Ultimately, he was a superstar because he had that star quality and he was promoted in the right way. And I think the time was right for a 'Third World' superstar at that point and it was a perfect storm. But that's not to take anything away from him because he was exactly the right person to be surfing this perfect storm. ○

STARS OF THE SOUND SYSTEM

Some of the most important reggae artists (and what to listen to)

Jimmy Cliff

One of the original breakout stars of reggae, Cliff became an international sensation after his leading performance in *The Harder They Come*. Originally combining pop and ska music, he added soul and R&B influences as his career progressed and moved into what we now consider reggae.

Listen to: *Jimmy Cliff* (1969)



Desmond Dekker

Born in Kingston, Dekker brought his distinctive Jamaican patois to his singing style and helped to spread what would become a classic reggae sound to the world. His song *Israelites*, from the album of the same name, made him a household name in the UK.

Listen to: *Israelites* (1969)



Toots and the Maytals

With a unique mix of gospel, ska, soul and reggae, Frederick 'Toots' Hibbert and the Maytals worked with producer Coxsone Dodd on their first album in 1964, proving a bigger hit at that time than The Wailers. A song on *The Harder They Come* soundtrack was a big boost to their fame.

Listen to: *Funky Kingston* (1973)



Burning Spear

A close friend of Bob Marley in the 1960s, Burning Spear (AKA Winston Rodney) was a pioneer of roots reggae, singing about the important social and historical experiences of Jamaicans. He has received multiple Grammy Award nominations, with the most recent in 2008 for *Jah is Real*.

Listen to: *Marcus Garvey* (1975)

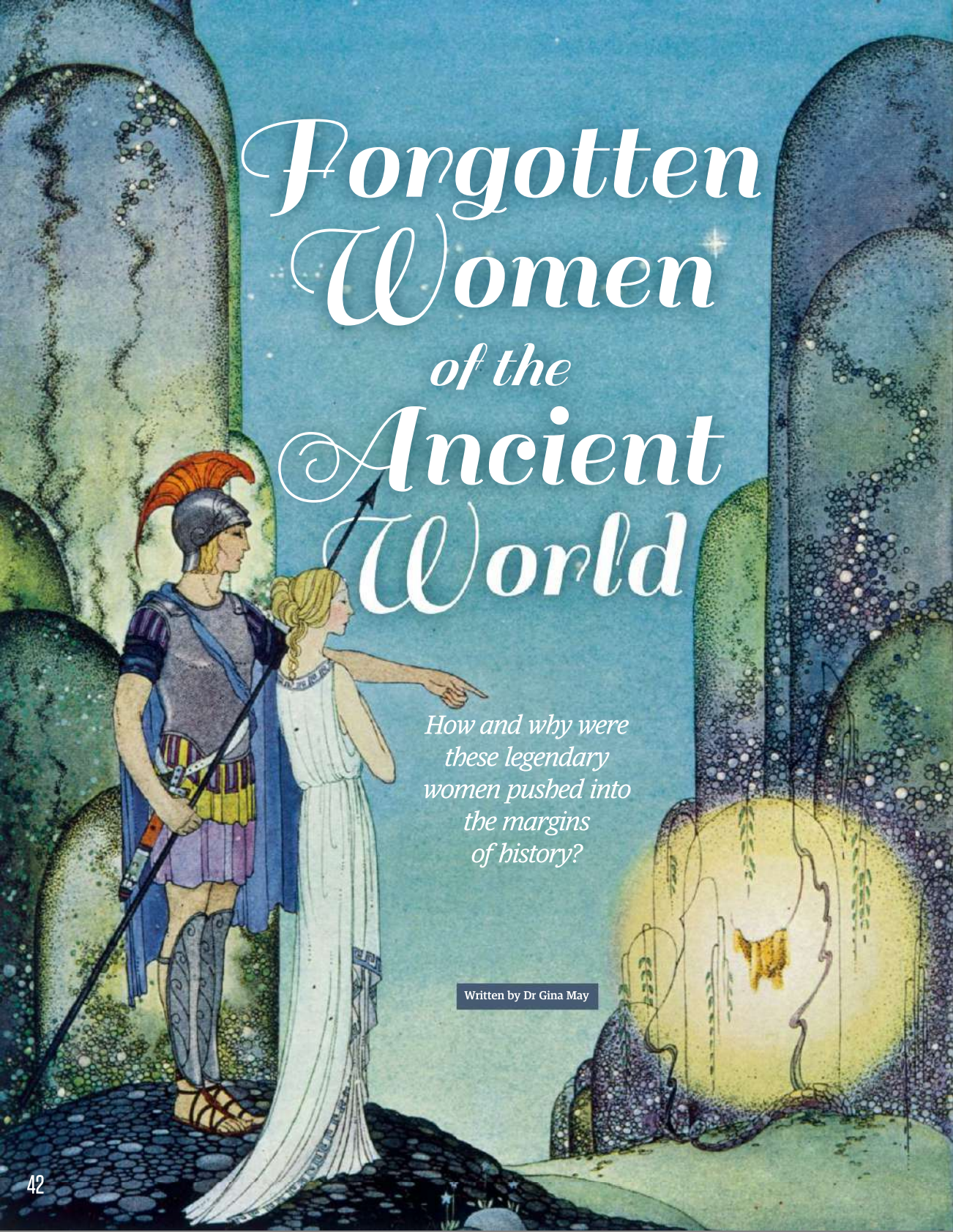


Bob Marley

With more than 20 million records sold worldwide, it's fair to say that Bob Marley is the superstar of the reggae movement. Starting out with The Wailers, Marley helped to introduce much of the world to reggae and his electric stage presence made him a global icon for years to come.

Listen to: *Exodus* (1977)



An illustration of a Roman soldier in profile, wearing a helmet with a red plume, a purple tunic, and a blue cloak. He holds a spear. Next to him, a woman in a long white dress with a blue border points her right arm towards the right. They stand on a dark, rocky path. The background features large, stylized arches in shades of green and blue, with a bright yellow light source behind one of the arches on the right. The title 'Forgotten Women of the Ancient World' is written in a large, white, cursive font across the top half of the image.

Forgotten Women of the Ancient World

*How and why were
these legendary
women pushed into
the margins
of history?*

Written by Dr Gina May

Forgotten Women of the Ancient World

Atalanta picks up a golden apple thrown by Aphrodite during a race with a suitor



ABOVE-INSET
Sculpture of
Atalanta from a
temple in Tegea

RIGHT Atalanta on
horseback during
the Calydonian
Boar Hunt

Atalanta of the Argo

Everybody knows the story of Jason and the Argonauts and how they bravely sailed across the sea in search of the golden fleece. The story goes that he fought fire-breathing bulls, ploughed the dragon's teeth and battled with the warrior men that sprang up from the earth before finally slaying the giant serpent that was guarding the elusive golden fleece. But the truth, and indeed there is a truth as opposed to just the myth, is somewhat different.

The concept of the 'golden fleece' has now been proved to be a traditional way of mining for gold in the area that was Colchis, now Georgia. The water containing small elements of gold was allowed to run over the fleece, which collected it in the wool. The fleeces were hung over the trees to



dry, after which the gold was shaken out and collected. In order to protect this precious resource, the Colchians invented the tale of the terrible serpent that protected a fleece to minimise the risk of robbers coming to take away their booty.

Jason was sent on a quest to capture that which was thought to be impossible to obtain and if he returned with the fleece, the throne his uncle had stolen from him would be his. Jason took the challenge and recruited the best of the heroes for the voyage. The ancient sources give lists of these

Ancient history tells the stories of heroic men who changed the face of the world. But there are abundant tales of heroic women who have been left out of those stories and who had as much, and in some cases, even more of an impact on history. Extraordinary women like Atalanta, who sailed to Colchis on the Argo in search of the Golden Fleece and joined the hunt for the Calydonian Boar. Tomyris, Queen of the Massagetae waged war against King Cyrus of Persia and won. Cynane was the older half-sister of Alexander the Great and a fierce fighter like the women of her Illyrian heritage. These are only a few of the remarkable women who fought against and alongside the greatest men of history but are never mentioned in their stories. These are the forgotten women of the Ancient World.

men but most leave out one important crew member, a young girl in her very early teens, Atalanta. Atalanta has conveniently been forgotten both by ancient and modern scholars for no other reason than that she was female and did not fit into the mould of what was considered a 'hero'. But in reality, Atalanta's reputation preceded her and she was not asked to prove her bravery and fighting skills as the other crew members were. Jason took her on board on reputation alone, alongside heroes such as Heracles and Theseus.

Atalanta had been abandoned as a new born baby on Mount Parthenion by her father Lycurgus because she was a girl and he had wanted a boy. We are told that she was found and suckled by a she-bear who had lost her cubs before being rescued by hunters, who brought her up. They taught her to hunt and she became extraordinarily fast at running. Modelling herself of the goddess Artemis, she wore a short tunic and protected her virginity fiercely in the goddess' honour. Eventually she returned to the city to confront her father but before she had a chance to do so, she heard that Jason was recruiting a crew for his famous voyage. What is interesting is that of the seven ancient sources that list the Argonauts, only three mention her. We cannot know for sure why this was, but it may well have been that as a woman, she was either not worthy of mention or she was deliberately left out because again, as a woman, she threatened the status quo of women being completely subservient to men.

The ancient sources do not mention Atalanta in the events of the voyage itself, but they do talk about her standing guard over the ship while Medea, the princess of Colchis, helped Jason to get the fleece and then followed him back to the boat. They were chased by men trying to retrieve both the princess and the fleece and Atalanta was one of the handful of warriors who fought them off and made sure that the Argo was able to leave shore and escape downriver away from the city. Arriving back in Iolcus Atalanta wrestled with the new king Peleus,



which was an extraordinary thing for a woman to do and, what's more, she beat him! She then went on to compete in the famous Calydonian Boar hunt, again the only woman we know of to have done this. She drew first blood of the boar, showing herself to be better than all the men, the greatest of men, who were also on the hunt.

Atalanta chose to stay living in the wilderness as she had done as a child because an oracle had prophesied that marriage would be her undoing. Sadly, the prophecy came to pass when her father heard of her exploits and set out to find her and bring her back to the city. She had no power to resist him and as per the usual Ancient Greek customs, she came under his control. His first action was to find her a husband, which indicates that she was still very young, possibly somewhere between the usual marriageable age of 14-20. Contrary to Greek custom, she insisted on having some control over who she married



“Atalanta has conveniently been forgotten both by ancient and modern scholars”



LEFT Queen Tomyris Receiving the Head of Cyrus, King of Persia

BELOW-LEFT Atalanta and Meleager painted together as a family

BOTTOM-LEFT A hydria depicting Atalanta and Peleus wrestling at the funeral games of King Pelias

BOTTOM-RIGHT A portrait of Tomyris by Andrea del Castagno

Olympias: Myth and melodrama

Has the mother of Alexander been misunderstood?

As the mother of Alexander the Great it would be understandable for the life and works of Olympias to have been overshadowed by her legendary son, but her story is a little more complex than that. The depiction of the Macedonian queen through history has tended to be very negative and yet there are many reasons to question these attitudes. For a start, much of the history of this period and after her death was written by supporters and sympathisers of Macedon King Cassander, her rival. After his ultimate victory over Olympias in 316 BCE, Cassander's men had refused to execute the queen and the job was left to relatives of people she had put to death instead. It seems a smear campaign followed, painting Olympias as the person responsible for many deaths and executions of those opposing her power. But were her actions any more violent than those of her husband, Philip II, or son? And could many of them have been performed without the consent of Alexander? She's a figure who should be read about with some caution and scepticism.



and stated that she would only marry a man who could defeat her in a footrace, knowing full well that this would be impossible. She added the further caveat that if a suitor lost, they would be put to death.

Despite these terms, many men tried and failed until one day Hippomenes came to try his luck. He fell in love with Atalanta at first sight and prayed to the goddess Aphrodite to help him in his quest. This was the beginning of the end for Atalanta. The rest of what we know about Atalanta comes from myth as she disappears from the historical record. Myth has it that Aphrodite was angry with Atalanta because she had spurned physical love, wanting to remain a virgin. So between her father, the suitor and the goddess, Atalanta did not stand a chance. As the race progressed, Aphrodite threw golden apples into the path of the young girl who stopped to pick them up, allowing Hippomenes to claim her as his prize. Ultimately then, as soon as Atalanta came under the control of her father, her identity and any agency over her life was taken away. Perhaps the truth is that she lived a long and happy life in the servitude of her husband. But in the end, this remarkable and extraordinary young woman is barely mentioned by either ancient or modern sources, and then she is finally forgotten when she becomes simply a 'wife'.

Tomyris, Queen of the Massagetae

Tomyris was queen of the Massagetae, who were an Iranian people and a mixture of nomadic tribes from across Central Asia, modern day Afghanistan, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan. In 530 BCE, King Cyrus of Persia came to ask for her hand in marriage as a way of uniting the two peoples and, for him, eliminating the threat from her fearsome army. She laughed in his face and refused him point blank.

The king of Persia was not a man who took rejection well, believing that as a mere woman, alone on the throne, Queen Tomyris should have been grateful. He was so furious that she had laughed at him, he decided to go to war and dominate her by crushing her army and taking her lands. King

Cyrus sent his armies to the edge of the river that marked the edge of Tomyris' territory and made a show of building a bridge over which he would send his forces. Tomyris, still amused by his proposal and not really taking him very seriously, sent him a message saying not to bother with a bridge, and why not just fight it out on a strip of land near the river? She was so confident that she sent only a third of her army to meet his.

But Cyrus decided to play dirty. Knowing that the Massagetae people had never encountered wine before, he moved his army to meet Tomyris' but left behind a large quantity of food and wine by the side of the river where he had been building the bridge. The Massagetae soldiers, led by Tomyris' son, stopped on their way to the battle and took their fill. Hours later, the Persian king returned and swiftly and easily captured the drunk and incapable men.

Queen Tomyris was livid, both with King Cyrus and her son. She said: "It was this poison by which you ensnared my child, and so overcame him, not in a fair open fight. Now hear what I advise and be sure I advise you for your good. Restore my son to me and get you from the land unharmed, triumphant over a third part of the host of the Massagetae. Refuse, and I swear by the sun, the sovereign lord of the Massagetae, bloodthirsty as you are, I will give you your fill of blood."

Tomyris was not only a formidable enemy but must also have been



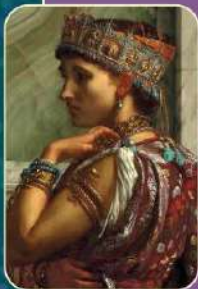
Women who ruled

Even more important ancient women who are too frequently forgotten



Cartimandua
c.1st century CE - c.69 CE

Ruling over a large tribe in northern Britain, Cartimandua relied on the support of Roman invaders, much like many large tribal chiefs of her era, including against her own husband who was co-ruler. The Roman army reinforced her reign on several occasions until the year of four emperors in 69 CE meant they were too preoccupied to send aid and she was finally deposed.



Zenobia
c.240 CE - c.274 CE

Queen of the Roman colony of Palmyra (in modern Syria), Zenobia started out as a client ruler, acting as regent for her young son, but she had greater ambitions. From 269 CE she conquered Egypt and Asia Minor and declared her independence from Rome. She was finally defeated by Aurelian at Antioch and Emesa, before a siege of Palmyra ended her reign.



Artemisia I
5th century BCE

The queen of Halicarnassus may have been Greek, but she allied with Xerxes in his invasion of Greece and personally led five ships in the Battle of Salamis. While this battle ended in Xerxes' fleet being repelled, Herodotus credits Artemisia with convincing the great king to retreat rather than overcommit and risk losing what navy he had left.



Semiramis
9th century BCE

Also known as Sammu-ramat, Semiramis was an Assyrian queen perhaps better known as a legend than as a true historical figure. A stela found at Ashur places her as the mother of king Adad-nirari III, but legend tells of her being the daughter of a goddess who married King Ninus and after his death expanded the empire and built the famous city of Babylon.

"Tomyris was not only a formidable enemy but must also have been a formidable parent"

a formidable parent because when her son sobered up, he was so ashamed he could not face her and took his own life. This inflamed her anger even more and she immediately gathered the fiercest of her warriors, both men and women, and led them into battle.

The fight was long and bloody, but Tomyris eventually smashed the Persian forces and was triumphant in her victory. Still furious with Cyrus, the Persian king, she picked her way through the dead on the battlefield until she found his body. Taking her sword, she hacked his head from his shoulders and, keeping her promise to him, placed it in a bag filled with blood, thus giving him his 'fill of blood'. She then cut off the top of his skull and it is said that she used it often as her favourite wine cup.

Tomyris largely disappears from the historical record after this, but her people eventually grew into the Huns,

LEFT A statue of Medea holding the golden fleece stands in Batumi, Georgia



later to be led by Atilla, one of the fiercest warriors of all time.

Cynane and her daughter Adea

Before Alexander the Great there was Cynane, his older half-sister born in around 357 BCE. She too was the daughter of Philip II, her mother being the Illyrian princess, Audata. Illyrian women were known for being fierce warriors and Phillip needed to strengthen his army, so joined these two great countries through marriage.

Illyrian women were trained in the arts of war as young girls and Audata insisted that Cynane be trained in the same way. By the time Cynane was in her mid-teens she had earned a reputation as a fearsome warrior. She fought alongside men in battle against the enemies of the Macedonians in hand-to-hand combat, leading from the front. When her half-brother Alexander the Great came to the throne, he had her husband executed but this did not quell Cynane's spirit.

She passed on all that she had learned to her own daughter Adea and after the death of Alexander the Great, she set out to make her daughter queen. The Macedonian army had appointed Alexander's brother and infant son as joint rulers. Cynane raised an army and marched towards Sardis to marry her teenage daughter Adea to the new King Arrhidaeus with the intention of taking power herself, as regent. She was met along the way by a large army and refused their orders to turn back. In the ensuing battle, Cynane was killed but the men, realising that they had killed the daughter of Philip II and the sister of Alexander, took up arms in favour of Adea and insisted that she be married to Arrhidaeus.

Stronger in spirit than her new husband, Adea went on to become an influential queen who created allies out of enemies and for whom armies mutinied. But in the end, she was no match for Olympias, the powerful mother of Alexander the Great, who wanted to see her grandson become king. Adea had managed to secure custody of the child and although she was still only around 20 years old, she

took on the forces of the inimitable Queen Mother, Olympias.

The women went to war, both at the head of their own armies. Olympias was dressed as a bacchant and Adea was dressed in the same garb as the rest of her army, many of whom were women. Once the armies came face to face, their loyalties were conflicted and eventually most of Adea's forces defected to Olympias, forcing Adea to flee for her life. Eventually Adea was captured, and Olympias sent a message to her prison cell with a noose, a sword and a goblet of poison ordering her to commit suicide by whichever means she favoured. Adea, however, was determined to have the last word, staying proud to the last and refusing to let Olympias have any power over the way she died. Adea hung herself by her own belt, a final act of defiance from this brave and fearless woman. Two redoubtable women went head-to-head in hand to hand combat to fight for the control of Alexander the Great's lands. Ultimately Olympias won but Adea, a young girl less than half her age, certainly gave as good as she got and had the last laugh. ○

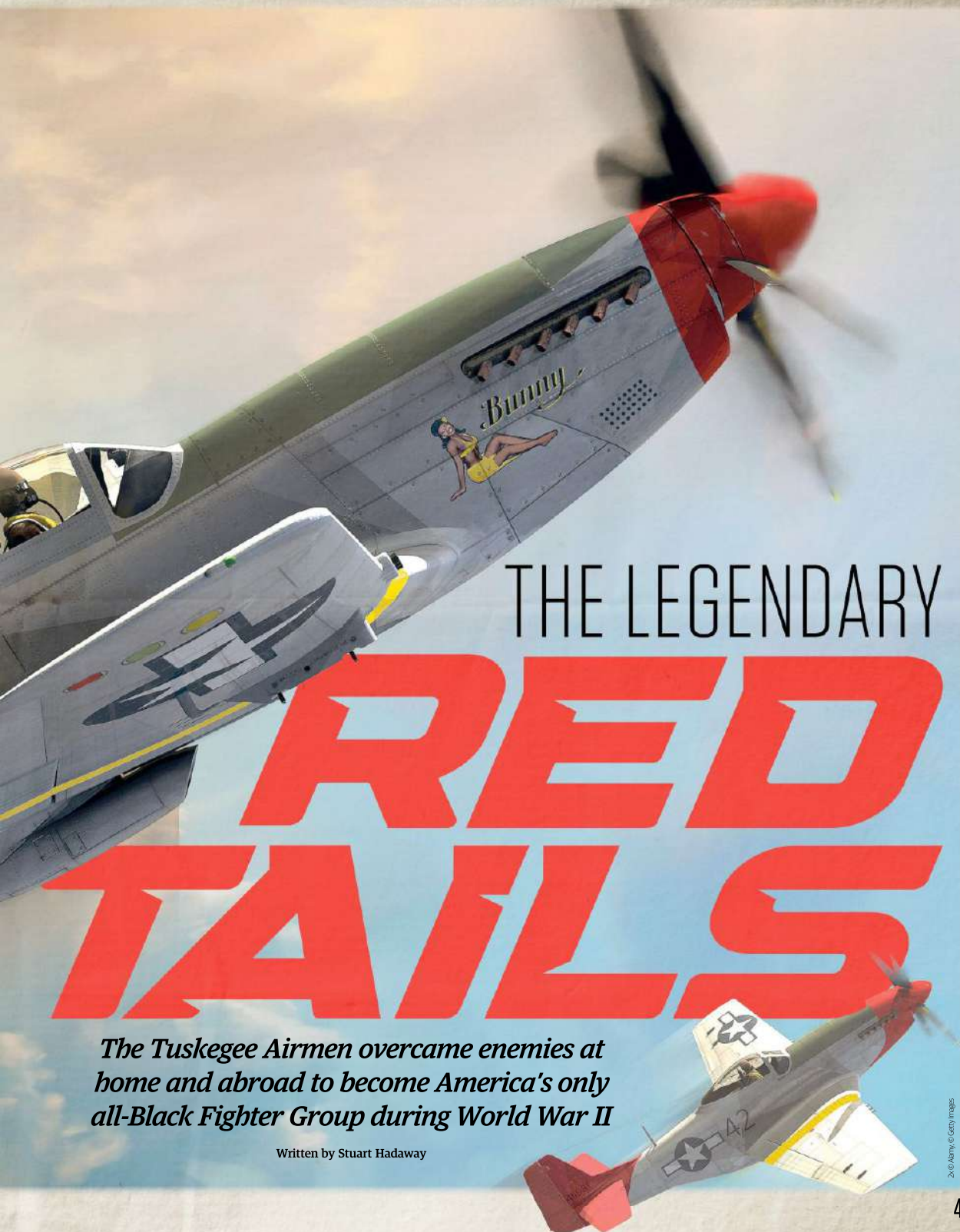
BELOW-LEFT
Medea rejuvenates Aeson, Jason's father

BELOW-MIDDLE
There are hardly any images of Cynane, half-sister of Alexander the Great, but the strategy game *Total War: Arena* from Creative Assembly brought her to life in 2015

BELOW-RIGHT
Medea and Orpheus charming a dragon together to get to the golden fleece







THE LEGENDARY

RED TAILS

The Tuskegee Airmen overcame enemies at home and abroad to become America's only all-Black Fighter Group during World War II

Written by Stuart Hadaway



It's not unusual for military formations to have to fight for the resources they need, or perhaps convince hidebound superiors of the validity of new technologies or techniques. Few, however, have ever faced a fight such as the African-American Tuskegee Airmen had to undertake to justify their very right to exist and serve their country.

Despite the "self-evident" facts declared in 1776 that "all men are created equal", the United States of America was riven with racism and prejudice in the 1940s. Segregation was normal in many areas and was rigidly, often violently enforced. African-Americans and other minorities were treated as second-class citizens, with the same nominal rights as white Americans but the clear understanding that they were not the same. Black troops had fought well from the American Civil War to World War I, but bigotry led to moves in the 1920s to limit Black military involvement. Even as America rebuilt its armed forces in the late 1930s, and war in both Europe and the Far East loomed, this vast pool of manpower was dismissed as fit for little more than menial work. When the Civilian Pilot Training (CPT) programme was established in 1938 to train some 20,000 college students for a year as civil pilots to be a ready-made reserve in wartime, it was limited to whites only. It took a further year for the scheme to be extended to Black colleges. Several were authorised to provide basic training and primary flight training, but all advanced training was to be conducted at the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama.

The Institute was founded in 1881 as the Tuskegee Normal School for Colored Teachers by Lewis Adams, a former slave, and George Campbell, a businessman and former slave-owner. Their aim was to improve education standards across the African-American community by training Black teachers, and over time (especially in the inter-war period) the Institute expanded into more vocational and technical subjects. The school still survives today, as the Tuskegee University.

The first CPT entrants began to arrive at Tuskegee in January 1940, and qualified over the summer and autumn. That September, the US introduced the 'draft', calling up selected young men for compulsory military service. But the US Army Air Force (USAAF) did not have any Black flying units and, as numbers of qualified pilots from Tuskegee grew, there was increasing pressure to create such a unit to take advantage of this

new resource. A Black unit was finally authorised in December 1940; it would be totally segregated with entirely Black personnel (beyond a few senior white officers and instructors). The aircrew were trained at the newly formed Tuskegee Army Air Force base, and the Black ground crews at Chanute Field, Illinois. Designated the 99th Pursuit (later Fighter) Squadron, the unit would take 15 months to achieve even limited operational status,

**"WE CALLED THEM THE
RED TAILS. BOY, WE FELT
GOOD WHEN THE RED TAILS
WERE WITH US"**

as obstacles were constantly thrown in its path. It took nearly a year to complete the facilities at the airfield, while prospective trainees found enlisting far harder than they had anticipated.

One of the first volunteers was Benjamin O Davis Jr, a graduate of the US Military Academy at West Point (where his time had been a constant struggle against racism), and son of the only Black general in the US Army. In fact, after his graduation and joining the infantry, Benjamin O

Davis Snr and Jnr were the only two Black officers in the US Army outside the Chaplains Department. Davis applied for flight training and was sent to Fort Riley, Kansas, for assessment. He would later recall: "The flight surgeon who gave me the exam did what all flight surgeons were doing when they had Black applicants. He wrote down that I had epilepsy, and I was not qualified for flying training." Such tricks were far from uncommon, with many officers and officials at all levels doubting that African-Americans had the intelligence or aptitude to make good pilots. Davis was then sent to an air base in Alabama for re-testing, and passed. He and 12 others arrived at Tuskegee in July 1941 to form the first class and start training. Five would successfully qualify the following March, followed by more classes over the coming months.

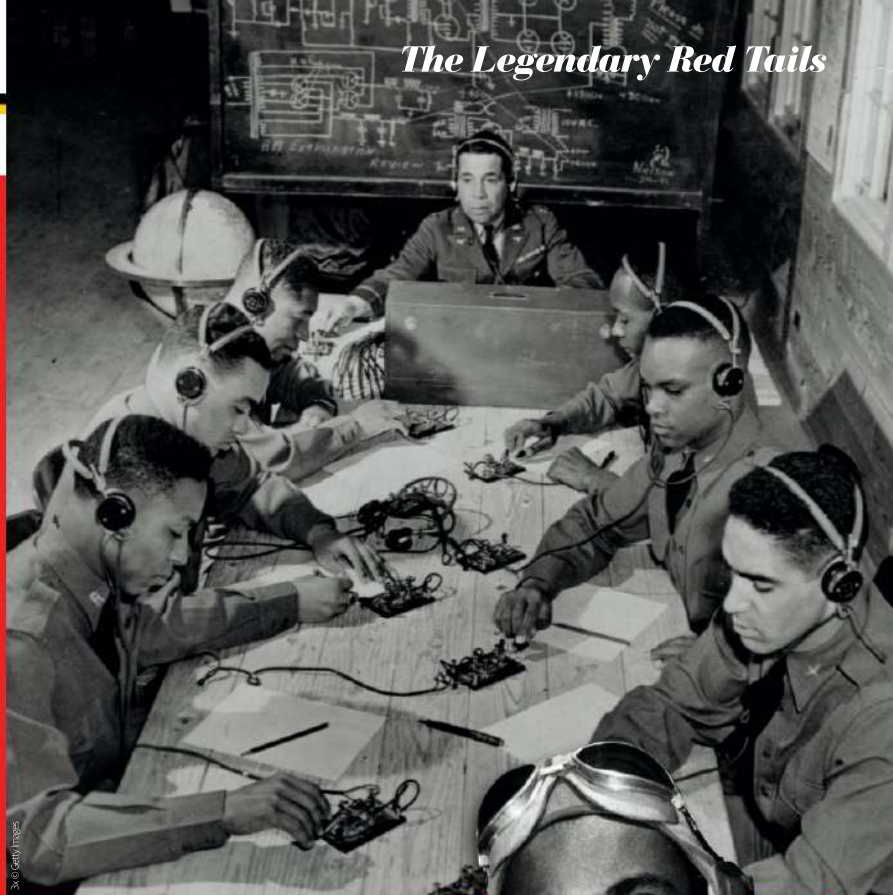
On base, the pilots faced segregation and prejudice. George Boyd, who would go on to serve until 1970 and see combat in the Korean and Vietnam Wars, recalled: "There were certain things you did based on custom and what was safe... That was part of growing up Black... You were afraid of doing something that'd get you harmed even though you weren't breaking the law."

Airfield facilities were divided into 'coloured' and 'white', and Black

RIGHT A P-51C Mustang painted in the distinctive Red Tail markings of the 332nd Fighter Group - the 'Tuskegee Airmen'

BELOW-RIGHT Ground crews were also Black, and faced the same difficulties as the aircrew. Racial prejudice and entry requirements stacked against Black personnel to deter applicants pervasively led to a very high standard of technical staff





BEING BLACK IN BRITAIN

The British took a very different approach to Black and ethnic minority personnel

Although the Royal Air Force (and its precursor, the Royal Flying Corps) had had several Indian and West Indian officers serve during World War I, during the inter-war period a 'colour-bar' had operated, banning officers of 'non-European descent'. This was lifted in October 1939, and hundreds of Black and Asian personnel would serve as aircrew, and thousands as ground crew, during the war. Primarily from the West Indies, men and women also came from India, Africa, and even Burma and China. All were fully integrated into their units and their crews, and there were no restrictions on their receiving command positions. However, there were some restrictions to prevent ethnic minority personnel

being posted to areas where they might face racial discrimination such as the United States of America or the Union of South Africa.

When American forces began arriving in Britain in 1942, British society was welcoming to all, often to the dismay of US authorities. Attempts to enforce racial segregation in pubs and other recreational facilities near American bases were often met with obstruction and outright hostility by local people, and by the members of the British armed forces. On more than one occasion rioting and violence broke out when American military police attempted to enforce racist policies that the British neither recognised nor wanted.

ABOVE Trainee airmen undergoing Morse Code training at Tuskegee Army Air Force base

RIGHT Second Lieutenant Oliver O Miller, 1943





personnel were banned from the latter. Thankfully for the trainees, base commander Lieutenant Colonel Noel Parrish was a supporter of equality and did all he could to impose fair treatment and mitigate the worst of the bigotry, integrating facilities as much as possible.

The 99th Fighter Squadron (FS) became operational in July 1942, commanded by the newly promoted Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin Davis. Over the following months they built up their strength and experience, flying worn-out Curtiss P-40 Warhawks. As more pilots graduated, the 100th Fighter Squadron also began to form. In March 1943 the 99th FS was ready for deployment, and in April it arrived in Casablanca, Morocco. After two months operational training, the squadron joined the 33rd Fighter Group (FG).

The 33rd FG was commanded by Colonel William Momyer, who made no secret of his disapproval of the 99th. Despite the Group's four squadrons all operating from the same base, Momyer ignored the 99th FS and isolated them as much as possible. Despite this hostile welcome the 99th FS went into combat over the Mediterranean island of Pantelleria in June, conducting dive-bombing and ground-attack sorties, and escorting medium bombers. At the end of June the squadron was relieved to leave the 33rd FG, joining the rather more welcoming 324th FG to take part in the invasion of Sicily. Again, the squadron flew ground attack and escort sorties, and



THE TUSKEGEE BOMBER BOYS

Less famous than the legendary Red Tails, there was also a Black Bomb Group

While the 332nd Fighter Group are the best-known of the Tuskegee airmen, there was also the 477th Bombardment Group (BG). Formed in January 1944 at Selfridge Army Air Field, Michigan, the unit moved several times. The unit never saw combat with the enemy, but instead became embroiled in constant conflict with its own side. Always understrength, not least because of long delays in authorising the training of Black personnel as navigators and bomb-aimers, the Group's own chain of command was determined that it would not be a success.

Colonel Robert Selway, who had briefly commanded the 332nd FG, was the commander of the new Group, and he went to great lengths to enforce segregation and the isolation of the

Black crews. In this he was supported by the commander of the First Air Force, General Frank Hunter, who was an ardent segregationist, while even General Hap Arnold, commander of the USAAF, was against the unit from the start. In December 1944, at Freeman Field, Indiana, Selway attempted to formalise the unofficial segregation on the base, in contravention of Army regulations, leading to over 100 Black officers refusing orders and being arrested. A Committee on Special Troop Policies investigated the matter. All but three were released without charge, and only one of them was convicted of a military crime. Soon after, Benjamin O Davis was brought from the 332nd FG to take command of the 477th. The Group was treated better from then on.





TOP A class of airmen await their "Wings" as a symbol of their qualification. Due to the facilities at Tuskegee, each class was small

ABOVE-LEFT Airmen getting navigation training. All instructors were white to begin with, until enough Black officers were deemed to have the necessary skills and experience

ABOVE-MIDDLE In March 2007 over 300 surviving Tuskegee Airmen gathered to be awarded the Congressional Gold Medal for their extraordinary contributions to their country

ABOVE-RIGHT Tuskegee Airmen being briefed for an operation in Italy, March 1945

on 2 July they achieved their first aerial victory when Lieutenant Charles Hall shot down a German Focke-Wulf Fw 190. They completed a total of 175 combat sorties over Sicily in just 10 days and were awarded a Distinguished Unit Citation for their efforts.

On 19 July 1943, the 99th FS was posted back to the 33rd FG, and the unit started perhaps the hardest part of their war. Again ostracised by their commander and the rest of the Group, in September they also lost their excellent commanding officer when Davis was posted back to the US to take command of the newly forming 332nd FG, composed entirely of Black units. That same month, Colonel Momyer wrote a damning report on the performance of the 99th FS, which went all the way to the top. Eventually the Chief of Staff of the US Army, General George C Marshall, ordered the War Department to investigate Momyer's accusations of poor performance. It would take five months for the investigation, which exonerated the 99th FS on all counts, to be published.

In October some relief came as the 99th FS was again posted, to the 79th FG. Here they received a warm welcome from Colonel Earl Bates who, in stark contrast to Momyer, extended every courtesy and facility to the squadron. The units became fully integrated, even to the extent that 99th FS pilots led flights and formations, something that Momyer had forbidden as it put white personnel under the command of Black men. However, poor weather and monotonous patrols slowly eroded morale, as did the lack of further air-to-air combat success. To make matters worse, the unit was given apparently lesser duties during the landings at Anzio in January 1944, flying patrols over the invasion fleet rather than on the front lines. This duty was turned to stunning advantage on 27 January, when 15 Fw 190s were spotted attacking Allied shipping. The 99th FS intercepted them and despite being heavily outclassed by the newer, faster Fw 190s the Tuskegee men in their aged P-40s shot down five enemy aircraft and damaged five more, for the loss of two of their own. The following day, three more German aircraft were shot down, and morale in the 99th FS rocketed. They had proved their worth as fighter pilots.

Their run of luck continued through February, and in March they were delighted to be posted back to the 324th FG. They shared in the Group's successes over Anzio and Monte Cassino, and in their resulting Distinguished Unit Citation. Then, in June, came a move that was strangely not as popular as might have been expected.

In January 1944, the 332nd FG had arrived in Europe, consisting of the 100th, 301st and 302nd FSs. All of them were Black units, drawn from some of the nearly 1,000 Black airmen trained at Tuskegee through the war. Equipped with the obsolete Bell P-39 Airacobra, they had been relegated to coastal patrols until May 1944, when they started to re-equip with the modern Republic P-47 Thunderbolt. The 99th FS gave up their P-40s to receive P-47s as they joined the Group, but despite this many pilots were discontented. They had been proving themselves as part of otherwise all-white units, and saw being sent to the all-Black 332nd FG as a step backwards, a reinforcement of the military's segregation policies.

The 332nd FG were one of four FGs in the Fifteenth Air Force. Each FG had a different pattern on their tails for recognition, and the 332nd's all-red tail markings led to their new nickname: the Red Tails. They were engaged on a mixture of tactical operations, supporting ground units in Italy and the Balkans (even supporting Red Army units in the

"THAT WAS PART OF GROWING UP BLACK... YOU WERE AFRAID OF DOING SOMETHING... EVEN THOUGH YOU WEREN'T BREAKING THE LAW"

latter), and strategic operations escorting heavy bombers over France, Italy, Romania, the Balkans and into Germany itself. In July 1944, the Group began converting aircraft type again, receiving North American P-51C Mustangs.

The Red Tails really began to win a reputation during the escort operations that made up over half of their tasks. The heavy bombers of the Fifteenth Air Force flew long distances, with the various FGs providing escort on different parts of the routes. The Red Tails soon gained a name for themselves as efficient escorts. GC Barnett, a B-24 Liberator co-pilot, recalled: "Maybe we should've called them the Red Barons, but we called them the Red Tails. They were always in position where we thought fighter escort should be, not too far out, and not too close - right out where we liked to see them... Boy, we felt good when the Red Tails were with us."

Escorting was unglamorous work and required strict discipline. The fighters needed to stick with the bombers, seeing off enemy fighters without getting drawn

off by them and leaving the bombers undefended. The Red Tails developed a reputation for not being easily drawn away. This meant that their overall aerial victory rate remained relatively low, but they kept their bombers safer. There is a myth that the Red Tails never lost a bomber they were escorting but this is not true - at least 27 can be traced as lost on their watch, including 15 on 18 July 1944 alone. However, from 24 August 1944 through to 24 March 1945 the Red Tails did fly over 100 bomber escort operations without losing a bomber, which was no mean feat.

A high point of the Red Tails' service came on 24 March 1945, with the longest distance raid ever flown by the Fifteenth Air Force: a 2,600km round trip to Berlin. The Red Tails were due to take over escort duties for the last leg of the outward trip, handing over to the next FG as they reached Berlin. In fact, the relief escorts did not show up, and Davis opted to remain with the bombers as they made their bombing run over the German capital. There, the formation was attacked by Messerschmitt Me.262 jet fighters and the Red Tails downed three of them in the ensuing dogfight. For their performance, the 332nd earned their first (but the 99th FS's third) Distinguished Unit Citation.

After the end of the war, the 332nd FG returned to the US and was deactivated, with the 99th FS joining the 477th BG to form the 447th Composite Group, under Davis' command. They now faced fresh prejudice and discrimination. Jefferson Alexander had been a POW, and had found that the Nazis had treated him just like any other US officer. He now found himself being denied the use of the 1st Class carriages on trains, an experience shared by many others, regardless of their uniforms, medals and war service.

However, in part due to their service, things were changing. When the United States Air Force became an independent service in 1947, it lost no time in beginning the process of de-segregating. Integration became official USAF policy in 1948, even before President Truman announced that it would be introduced across the armed forces. Some of the Tuskegee airmen would go on to illustrious careers in the USAF. Davis, for example, became its first Black general, commanding a wing in the Korean War, then holding higher command in Europe. More still left the military, and with their training, experiences and confidence joined the growing Civil Rights movement. In 2007 the Tuskegee Airmen were presented with the Congressional Gold Medal, in recognition of their service. ○

HISTORY OF VAMPIRES



**Bram Stoker created a cultural icon in 1897,
but there's a veritable crypt of gruesome
bloodsuckers stretching back even further**

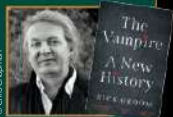
Written by Callum McKelvie



'THE BLOOD IS LIFE... AND IT SHALL BE MINE!'

BRAM STOKER'S DRACULA

EXPERT BIO



PROFESSOR NICK GROOM

Nick Groom is Professor of Literature in English at the University of Macau, having previously been Professor in English at the University of Exeter. He specialises in Gothic literature and is the author of *The Vampire: A New History*

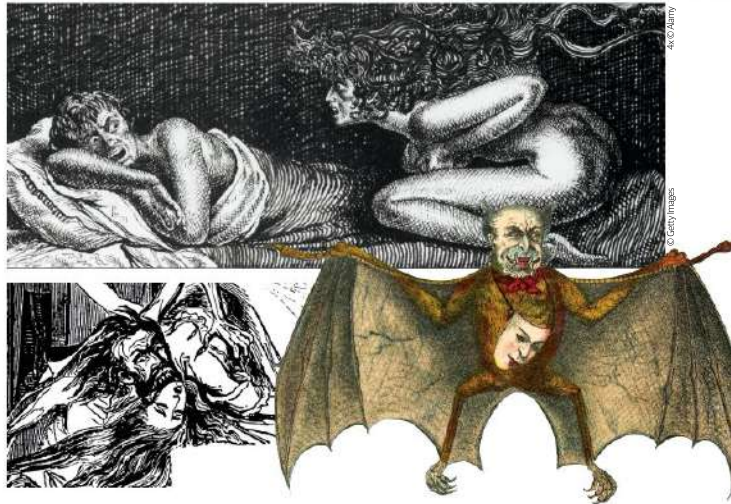
The long cape and evening wear, the distinguished features and thick Romanian accent, the fangs and the blood - if you say 'vampire' to someone then doubtless these are some of the images the word conjures. From Bela Lugosi's accent to Christopher Lee's crimson-lined cape, they can mostly be traced to a single source - Bram Stoker's 1897 novel, *Dracula*. But Stoker's story of a Transylvanian count who travels to the British seaside town of Whitby in search of new blood was not the only

work concerning vampirism published that year - Florence Marryat also authored *Blood of the Vampire*. For some reason, however, Stoker's story captured the public imagination in a way Marryat's never did. Since then, it's Stoker's novel and its subsequent adaptations that have become the archetype for vampire stories. According to Stoker's son, Irving Noel Thornley Stoker, his father said the idea for the novel came to him in a horrifying nightmare, the result of "a too generous helping of dressed crab at supper". Whatever the initial conception, it ►

was an idea that obsessed the Irish writer. Ever since the book's release a variety of historical, folkloric and fictional sources have been named as 'inspiring' the creation of Stoker's vampire. From real historical figures such as Vlad the Impaler and Elizabeth Bathory, to 'authenticated' reports of Romanian vampires in the 18th century, the history of the vampire is a veritable catacomb of stories and legends.

For many centuries, the concept of the creatures that we know today simply did not exist. Of course, images of blood-sucking demons have been with us since Biblical times, with examples found on Chaldean and Assyrian tablets. Lilith is thought to be descended from a class of Mesopotamian demons known as *lilû* that roughly translates to 'night creature' or 'night monster'. As described by Siegmund Hurwitz in his book: *Lilith - The First Eve*, she, "attempts to destroy the newborn child, the new consciousness or young-life, by drinking its blood." Hurwitz then goes on to state: "This sharply reveals the whole, dangerous vampire nature of Lilith, who needs the child's life to live herself to such an extreme that Lilith, as a later legendary story tells, even murders her own children if she cannot find someone else's to kill." In Jewish folklore there were also the *Estries*, female vampires that were said to prefer men as their prey. Numerous other ancient cultures have blood-drinking creatures among their mythologies, some of which can be described as precursors to the vampire, but none really match the creature as defined by Stoker.

When tracing the vampire's bloodline we must start with the individual most commonly referred to as 'the real Dracula': Vlad the Impaler. The 15th century Prince of Wallachia is often mistaken as a key inspiration behind Stoker's vampire, primarily due to the shared name of both the fictional creation and the real Transylvanian ruler. Vlad would sign his name as Dracula on several letters, which meant 'Son of the Dragon', in reference to his father, Vlad II Dracul, who was a member of the Order of the Dragon - an organisation created by Holy Roman Emperor Sigismund to defend Christian Europe against the Ottoman Empire. Born in 1431, Vlad Dracula spent much of his youth in the Ottoman Empire as collateral to ensure his father supported Ottoman policies. Upon his return he fought to regain his father's seat, which he would do successfully in 1456, after a brief two-month rule in 1448. It was at this point that he gained his nickname 'the Impaler' due to his penchant for skewering his enemies and leaving fields littered with their bodies as a warning to others. Later film versions of Stoker's novel, most notably Francis Ford Coppola's 1992 adaptation, state



clearly that Count Dracula and Vlad the Impaler are one and the same, so tied has the real historical figure become to the fictional character. How much Stoker would have actually known about the real Vlad is often debated. We know from his own notes that Stoker discovered the name 'Dracula' in the summer of 1890 after borrowing *The Accounts of the Principalities of Wallachia and Moldavia* from Whitby's public library. We also know that his attraction to this name was due to books stating that in the Wallachian language, Dracula meant 'Devil'. While some persist in drawing links between the fictional Count and the real Impaler, literary scholars such as Elizabeth Miller continue to point out the fallacies in this argument.

Another historical figure often linked to the development of Stoker's vampire is the Countess Elizabeth Bathory. Born in

"HE REPORTEDLY STRANGLED NINE PEOPLE IN EIGHT DAYS IN A SERBIAN VILLAGE, THEN SUCKED THEIR BLOOD"

1560, it is hard to determine what is fact and what is fiction when examining the life of the so-called 'blood countess'. Highly educated (she was fluent in four languages), Bathory was from an extremely wealthy family who ruled Renaissance-era Hungary with an iron fist. Bathory became infamous due to stories suggesting that she had killed various young female servants in her employ and either bathed in or drank their blood. At the time she was charged with the murder of some 80 victims, though later legends claim a death toll as high as 650. More recently research has surfaced, notably that of Tony Thorne, which suggests that while Bathory almost certainly was responsible for the deaths of young girls in her care, many of the accusations may have been exaggerated as part of a conspiracy to unseat her. Over the years, Bathory's connection to vampire mythology has grown, becoming the subject of a 1971 Hammer Horror film, *Countess Dracula*, where Ingrid Pitt is shown bathing naked in pools of blood. Perhaps the best screen version, though undoubtedly the most bizarre, is 1971's *Daughters of Darkness* where, according to author James Craig Holte, Bathory, "has survived three hundred

TOP There are many myths about life-force draining demons, like succubi

ABOVE-LEFT An image from Victorian horror story, *Varney the Vampire*

ABOVE-RIGHT A Vampire from 1851's *The Comic Natural History of the Human Race*



LEFT Bela Lugosi (in classic Dracula garb) with Helen Chandler in 1931's *Dracula*

years as a vampire," and preys on a pair of newlyweds at an out-of-season hotel in Ostend. Despite Bathory's connection to the vampire myth, it's largely acknowledged that any stories of her drinking and/or bathing in blood are most likely false and were concocted long after her death. And as Miller points out, while Stoker did borrow a book containing a small section on the Blood Countess, "nothing is noted from these pages. And there is nothing in the novel that can be attributed to the short Bathory section." As such, it's likely that it was in the decades following Stoker's novel that Bathory began to develop a reputation as a vampiric fiend.

Much of the mythology that we now link to vampires has remained undefined and loose, with no real connection to the creatures we know today. In the 18th century, however, all this changed. "I think you can actually put a very specific date on the first appearance of the vampire, and that's 1725," explains Nick Groom, Professor of Literature in English at the University of Macau. "There is a report made by an official of the Habsburg Empire, a man called Frombald, a medical officer in the Imperial Army, and he reports that Serbian hajduks (guerilla fighters) are exhuming and staking a corpse. The reason given is that the corpse is said to have risen from the grave to strangle victims, and then infect them with a particular condition that caused them to die within 24 hours." Following Frombald's initial report an investigation was launched, during which the supposed vampire was named as Peter Plogojowitz. "He has reportedly strangled nine people in eight days in a Serbian village, and then sucked their blood," Groom tells us. "The body is exhumed in the presence of local officials and according to the report there are no signs of decay, but there is fresh blood in the mouth. They staked him and blood spurts from his body - all this supposedly occurring after 10 weeks of being in the grave."

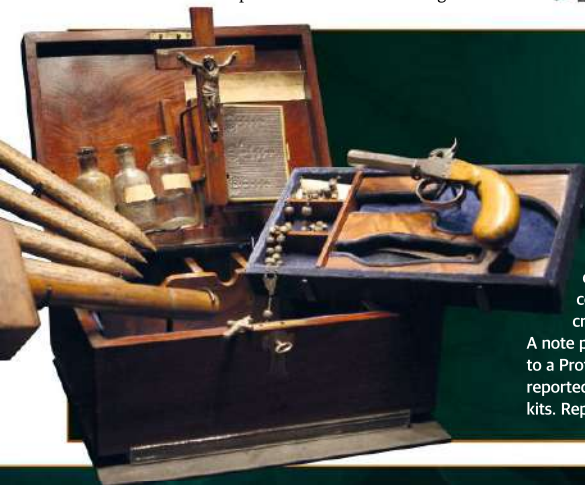
The Plogojowitz case was not alone, however, and soon other cases began to occur throughout the Habsburg Empire. "There's another case in 1727," Groom says. "Then in 1730, and then there's a second outbreak of the 1727 case in 1731." This second outbreak was investigated by Dr Johannes Flückinger in a village in Medveda, Serbia, in the area surrounding the Carpathian Mountains, and a total of 13 people were named as vampires. The plague was supposedly started in 1727 by Armond Paole who, according to Flückinger's report: "Attacked not only the people but also the cattle, and sucked out their blood." Finally exhuming Paole, "they drove a stake through his heart according to their custom whereupon he let out a noticeable groan and



The Biblical character of Lilith is another classic example of early vampiric figures

VAMPIRE HUNTING KITS

These strange collectors' curios are said to be from the 19th century and fetch thousands at auction



These vampire hunting kits first came to light in 1986 when one particular example was offered for sale in the United States. Supposedly dating from the 19th century, the kit contained a pocket pistol, a combined cross and stake, and two silver bullets.

A note provided with the item was attributed to a Professor Ernst Blomberg, who was reportedly also the maker of several other kits. Reports of the price of these kits varies,

but one purportedly sold for around £9,000. While there never seemed much likelihood that the kits were for actual use against real 'vampires', opinion was divided on whether they were handsomely produced curios for Victorian travellers to Eastern Europe, or fakes. Jonathan Ferguson, keeper of firearms and artillery at the Royal Armouries (which owns a kit of its own) believes that the kits, "could not have existed until the era of Hammer horror films in the 1950s-1970s."

GLOBAL GHOULS

Vampiric creatures exist the world over - here are some of the more intriguing and unusual examples

JIANGSHI

The Chinese hopping vampire

Similar to the Western concept of the zombie, the Jiangshi is seen wearing the clothing of the Qing Dynasty. Jiangshi are said to be created by a soul that is unable to leave a person's body because of suicide or a lust for vengeance. This creature's most notorious trait is its penchant for 'hopping'. This is supposedly due to corpses being transported by taoist priests who would tie the bodies to flexible bamboo rods, making it appear as if they were hopping.

ASWANG MANDURUGO

Filipino shape-shifter

Appearing as a beautiful woman, the true form of this monster is a winged bat-like creature. They attempt to find a blood supply through marriage, placing its barbed tongue in their husband's mouth as they sleep, draining the blood. In the Philippines, the word 'Aswang' roughly translates to 'dog' and is applied to anything of a vampiric nature. There are numerous types of Aswang alongside the Mandrugos, for example the Aswang Manananggal.

DIP

The Catalan hell hound

This particular Catalan cryptid takes the form of a huge black dog, similar to East Anglia's Black Shuck. But unlike that ghostly apparition, Dip is wholly corporeal and feasts on the blood of its victims. The creature is said to be an emissary of the devil and preys on those walking late at night. Dip's one weakness is that he's lame in one leg. The legend originates from the town of Pratdip, near Tarragona, where the dog can even be seen in its coat of arms.

PISACHA

Bloodthirsty Indian vampire

This Indian vampire is believed to be created through vice or by the god Brahma. Dwelling in charnel grounds or at crossroads, these creatures feast on blood and are known to prefer the darkness. The Pisacha's own blood is poisonous and it is frequently portrayed as raping drunken women. Should an individual fall prey to a Pisacha, they may be able to cure themselves of the creature's curse by placing an offering of rice to the Pisacha at a crossroads.

bled copiously." Flückinger's report would be the most widely circulated of these outbreaks, leading to something of a vampire obsession in the Enlightenment period in Europe. The importance of these accounts to the developing vampire myth cannot be understated, particularly Frombald's report in 1725. "That's when the word vampire was first used," Groom explains. "And therefore it's important to date from that specific instance, rather than a more general sense of belief in supernatural bloodsuckers."

The following decades saw something of an Enlightenment obsession with vampirism, particular among academic circles. As historian G David Keyworth explains in his paper *Was the Vampire of the Eighteenth Century a Unique Type of Undead Corpse?*: "The vampire outbreaks inspired many learned dissertations on the topic." Groom explains further: "In 1732 a Viennese medical journal published 17 articles on the subject and that news was then carried across to Europe, to places like Berlin, Paris and London, when the word vampire first entered the English language." One of the major books published during this obsession was by Dom Augustin Calmet, titled: *Treatise on the Apparitions of Spirits and on Vampires or Revenants of Hungary, Moravia, et al* which was then reprinted in 1850 under the more digestible title of *The Phantom World*. The intention was to explain vampire stories within a Catholic view. The book was a major success and widely read, and as the academic Marie-Hélène Huet explained: "Calmet's book belonged to an already flourishing genre that, under the pretence of putting superstitions to rest, indulged in bloodcurdling tales from beyond the grave."

Groom says: "In terms of the vampire in English literature that really begins at the start of the 19th century with poems by Robert Southey and Lord Byron." But it was during the summer of 1816 and the famous 'ghost story' challenge at the Villa Diodati, which gave birth to Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*, that a story emerged that would see vampire fiction creep into popular consciousness. Among the guests, which included Percy Shelley, Lord Byron and Mary Shelley, was a Dr John Polidori, whose story *The Vampyre* was instrumental in changing the vampire from a ghoulish creature to a handsome, aristocratic figure. Many assumed that his vampire was in fact based on Lord Byron. "He published his story, *The Vampyre* in 1819 and this kicked off a vampire craze in literature but also on the stage,"



LEFT Vlad The Impaler is often referred to as one of the inspirations behind Bram Stoker's *Dracula* - but how true is this really?

RIGHT Elizabeth Bathory who, according to legend, bathed in the blood of young virgins



BELOW-LEFT An early 1900s illustration showing a group of men shooting at the recently staked corpse of a supposed vampire

BELOW-RIGHT A man stakes a corpse in the chest to prevent it rising from the grave



says Groom. "One of the reasons is because of the sheer number of stage productions of *The Vampyre*. The story is circulated cheaply but also pirated and attributed to Lord Byron. This very much establishes the vampire as a literary figure and dozens of stories concerning vampires and vampirism follow." Over the following decades other takes on vampires emerged, but it was the publishing of *Dracula* in 1897 that arguably solidified the modern concept of the vampire. "*Dracula* comes at the end and is in my mind a fantastic culmination of previous vampire stories," says Groom. "Stoker researched the book for seven years. He goes back to the original accounts and he's well versed in vampire literature and in Eastern European folklore. To me, *Dracula* coming at the end of the 19th century and the end of an 80-year tradition fixes the vampire as a key cultural figure. It's a watershed moment."

Now the vampire, and particularly Count Dracula, has become a cinematic icon, although it can be argued that he was always destined to be. After all, it was only 20 or so years after the publication of Stoker's novel that the first adaptations appeared - the internet abounds with stories of a lost 1920 Russian adaptation, though even its existence is unconfirmed. The most famous early adaptation was FW Murnau's 1922 film *Nosferatu*, for which several alterations were made to the story in an attempt to dodge a copyright lawsuit. These attempts failed and the estate of Bram Stoker, led by his widow Florence Stoker, sued and a court ordered all copies of the film be destroyed. Proving that you can't kill the monster, one lone copy survived. In 1931, Universal Pictures released the first sound version of *Dracula* starring Bela Lugosi - who became so associated with the role that he was buried in his iconic costume. Britain's Hammer Films unleashed a slew of vampire movies between the late 1950s and early 1970s, including nine *Dracula* films, seven of which starred Christopher Lee as the immortal Count. The seventh of these, *Dracula AD 1972*, in which the vampire wakes up in



'swinging' London, was allegedly inspired by a mysterious true event that became known as the Highgate Vampire. This bizarre story began in 1969 when local David Farrant supposedly heard rumours of a strange floating figure haunting the cemetery, which he himself then saw. Another local, Sean Manchester, took the figure to be a vampire and outlined a theory that it was in fact a 'king vampire' transported from Romania in the 18th century and now reawakened by Satanists. Soon national interest in the case grew and when, on 13 March 1970, a television programme covering the story was broadcast from outside the cemetery, hundreds of wannabe vampire hunters descended on the area. The stories surrounding the Highgate Vampire would continue for years, as would a bitter feud between Manchester and Farrant over the supposed spectre.

Today, the vampire is a major and highly adaptable figure of popular culture. From blockbuster epics such as the *Twilight* films to TV series such as *The Vampire Diaries* and *True Blood*, the 21st century continues to see the vampire dominate popular fiction. "The vampire is a very flexible and malleable figure," says Groom, explaining the eternal lure of the vampire. "It doesn't have a single meaning and it can be adapted by different writers and filmmakers to mean different things. But I think if the vampire does address a single anxiety it's the question: what is it to be human? How do we then judge other lifeforms that don't have the moral compass that we have? If you get bitten by a dog, it's not because the dog is amoral. It's absurd to think of morality in those terms. Is that the case with vampires?" In these terms, then, the vampire is an important fictional metaphor and, like many of the best horror creatures, a lens through which artists can confront larger societal issues at a slight remove. "I ran a conference last year about the pandemic and somebody asked the question: 'Is coronavirus evil?'" Groom reveals. "It's a strange question. The virus can't think in those terms, it simply does what viruses do. Fictional lifeforms such as vampires can help us think through the implications of the threats and problems posed by things like viruses, and I think that that's helpful." ○

TOP Christopher Lee as the immortal Count being staked in *Dracula Has Risen From the Grave*

ABOVE Kurt Barlow, the lead vampire in Stephen King's *Salem's Lot*, shown here in the 1979 television miniseries

BELOW Bram Stoker, the legendary author and creator of *Dracula* - not to mention many of our modern ideas of vampires

"THE VAMPIRE IS A VERY FLEXIBLE AND MALLEABLE FIGURE, IT DOESN'T HAVE A SINGLE MEANING"







BEWARE THE MINO

Who were the 'Dahomey Amazon' warriors
who struck fear into the hearts of men?

Written by Jessica Leggett

The Mino warriors were brave and ruthless. A formidable all-female military regiment in the Kingdom of Dahomey, West Africa (modern-day Benin), these women struck fear into the hearts of their enemies and those who observed them.

There are a couple of different stories regarding the founding of the kingdom, with one tradition claiming that it was founded around 1625 by Do-Aklin. Likewise, there are several theories about the origins of the Mino warriors themselves, stories that have been passed down either through oral history or taken from the written sources of contemporary European colonists. These Europeans referred to the Mino as the 'Dahomey Amazons', taking the name from the race of women warriors in Greek mythology. However, the term 'Mino', the word for 'our mothers' in their native Fon language, is used to refer to these women today.

It is frequently claimed that the Mino was formed when women became bodyguards to either King Houegbadja or to his younger son, King Agaja, sometime during the 17th century. Women were an ideal choice to serve as bodyguards because men were not permitted

"THEIR TRAINING WAS ALSO
DESIGNED TO EXPOSE THEM
TO DEATH AND TO ENSURE
THAT THEY COULD KILL
WITHOUT HESITATION"

in the royal palace with the king at night. The decision to train female soldiers may have also been inspired by the Gbeto, the female warriors who hunted elephants. Another theory argues that the Mino was established during Agaja's war against the Oyo Empire, in which his

army contained women dressed as male warriors at the back.

However, oral history suggests that Houegbadja's daughter Tassi Hangbe, who briefly ruled Dahomey after the death of her twin brother King Akaba, may have created the all-female unit before she was deposed by Agaja. Clearly, the origins of the Mino are disputed, but we do know that they were integrated into the army by King Gezo, who ruled Dahomey from 1818 to 1858. It was during his reign that around half of the kingdom's armed forces comprised of the Mino alone.

One of the reasons why women were likely recruited as soldiers was because of the lack of men available to join the army. Not only had numerous men been lost in previous conflicts, but the economy of Dahomey relied heavily on the slave trade. Lots of men were sold off as slaves to European traders, so it became necessary to train women as soldiers to fill the gap. ▶

In fact, Queen Victoria sent Royal Navy Captain Frederick E Forbes to Dahomey twice, in 1849 and 1850, in an attempt to persuade King Gezo to stop participating in the slave trade. Forbes was ultimately unsuccessful, although he did write an account of his time in Dahomey that provides one of the insights we have into the Mino warriors.

Women were usually recruited to become soldiers for the Mino as teenagers. Many of them chose to join the regiment voluntarily but, sometimes, girls and women were sent to join the Mino by their fathers or even their husbands for being too unruly or headstrong. And it was not just women of the Fon who joined the Mino - female prisoners of war and girls who were seized during village raids were also trained.

"AS FEROCIOUS AS THE MINO WERE, THEY WERE UNABLE TO MATCH THE FRENCH IN TERMS OF WEAPONRY AND SHEER NUMBERS"

As part of their training, the Mino took part in a series of drills and weapons training - the surviving bas-reliefs on the royal palaces in Abomey, once Dahomey's capital, show that the women used weapons such as machetes, clubs and muskets. To build their endurance, trainee warriors would climb a wall covered in thorns over and over again, until they could no longer feel the pain.

Their training was also designed to expose them to death and to ensure that they could kill without hesitation. In a test designed to assess their capacity for cold-blooded brutality, the recruits had to lift prisoners of war, tied up and unable to escape, above their heads and drop them

from a height that would instantly result in their death.

In December 1889, French naval officer Jean Bayol wrote an account of a teenage recruit undergoing a similar test, in which a prisoner sat tied up in a basket was brought in front of her. According to Bayol, she "walked jauntily up, swung her sword three times with both hands, then calmly cut the last flesh that attached the head to the trunk... She then squeezed the blood off her weapon and swallowed it".

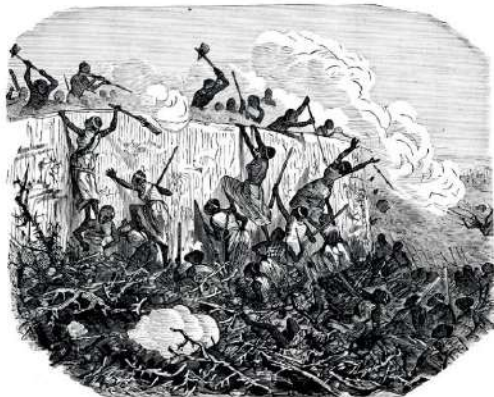
The Mino lived within the walls of the royal palace and were considered married to the king. However, they were sworn to celibacy, as pregnancy would have prevented them from fighting. When the women travelled outside of the palace, they were followed by a slave girl who would ring a bell to warn people of their

approach, so they could avert their eyes. Men were not supposed to look at the Mino and if they dared to touch one, they would be sentenced to death.

The Mino comprised of different units, including the riflemen, the reapers, the archers, the gunners and the huntresses, with the latter inspired by the Gbeto. Each of these units had their own uniforms, battle songs and dances, which they would also perform during parades for the king.

Although their military prowess is the focus of most attention, these women also had a political role too. They participated in the Grand Council and debated policy, in particular speaking against Dahomey's continued involvement with the slave trade. Ultimately, being a Mino warrior offered these women a form of independence, something that was not available to other women in the kingdom.

Of course, the Mino participated in many battles. For example, in 1727, during

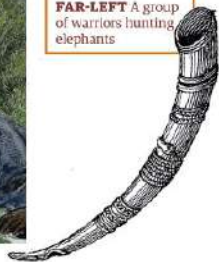


TOP The Mino attacked the Egbas' capital of Abeokuta in 1851

ABOVE The French enter Abomey in November 1892

LEFT Mino warriors were renowned for their bloodthirsty fearlessness in battle

FAR-LEFT A group of warriors hunting elephants



the reign of King Agaja, their involvement helped Dahomey conquer and annex the Kingdom of Whydah. They notably fought during the battle at Abeokuta against the Egba in 1851, to capture people who could then be sold as slaves. They were led by Seh-Dong-Hong-Beh, who commanded an army consisting of 6,000 Mino warriors.

These warrior women were determined to be better than the men and, devoted to their king, they would fight to the death rather than accept defeat. Indeed, European sources claimed that the Mino were a lot braver than their male counterparts, with *Forbes* stating, "what the males do, the amazons will endeavour to surpass."

The Mino proved this during the first Franco-Dahomean War in 1890 and the Second Franco-Dahomean War from 1892 to 1894. Africa was carved up among the European powers and the United States at the Conference of Berlin of 1884-85, which excluded African leaders and their people. The conference legitimised and formalised the European colonisation of Africa, with France becoming the dominant colonial power in West Africa.

France had already established commercial treaties with King Gezo, which allowed them to place traders and missionaries in Whydah and the port of Cotonou. However, this partnership began to turn sour when France gave the kingdom of Porto-Novo, a Dahomean tributary, protection against the British in 1863. King Glele, Gezo's son who succeeded him in 1858, resented French involvement in Porto-Novo, as well as France's increasing claims to Cotonou.

Glele died in 1889 and he was succeeded by his son, King Béhanzin, who believed that the French were compromising his own sovereignty. The situation reached a boiling point in March 1890, and the First Franco-Dahomean War began when Behanzin ordered his army to attack the French at Cotonou. The Mino warriors were able to enter the protected forts and engage the French soldiers in hand-to-hand combat, reportedly decapitating some of them. Meanwhile, some of the Mino warriors were impaled by French bayonets.

As ferocious as the Mino were, they were unable to match the French in terms of weaponry and sheer numbers. The series of attacks by Dahomey failed and by October, Béhanzin was forced to cede Cotonou to the French and accept Porto-Novo as a French protectorate. Nevertheless, the king quickly began to

re-arm his soldiers with modern weapons with the expectation of confronting the French again. The Mino being equipped with Winchester rifles.

Two years after the war ended, the Second French-Dahomean War broke out when Dahomey attacked villages in the Ouémé Valley, where the French had territorial claims. France declared war and a series of battles ensued as their troops moved closer to the capital of Abomey. The Mino were on the frontline, and in the final battle at Cana in November 1892 they fought the French with everything they had. However, it was not enough and after two days they were forced to withdraw, with Abomey falling to the French.

The fall of Abomey marked the end of the Kingdom of Dahomey, which was subsequently incorporated into French West Africa. Béhanzin chose to burn all of the royal palaces, leaving them in ruins, before fleeing northwards. He finally surrendered himself to the French in 1894 and was exiled to Martinique, bringing the Second Franco-Dahomean War to an official end.

The Mino was disbanded with the collapse of Dahomey. Although the

regiment ceased to exist, oral tradition suggests that some of the women continued to secretly protect Agoli-Agbo, Béhanzin's brother. He had been given the throne by the French in return for agreeing to Dahomey's surrender, remaining as king until France took direct control in 1900.

Even though the Mino came to an end over a century ago, interest in their lives has grown in recent years, as comparisons have been drawn between them and the Dora Milaje, the all-female bodyguards and warriors who serve the character Black Panther, in the Marvel Comics. More importantly, however, the Mino traditions - including their songs, dances and legends - are still being kept alive by their female descendants today, ensuring that their legacy lives on. ○

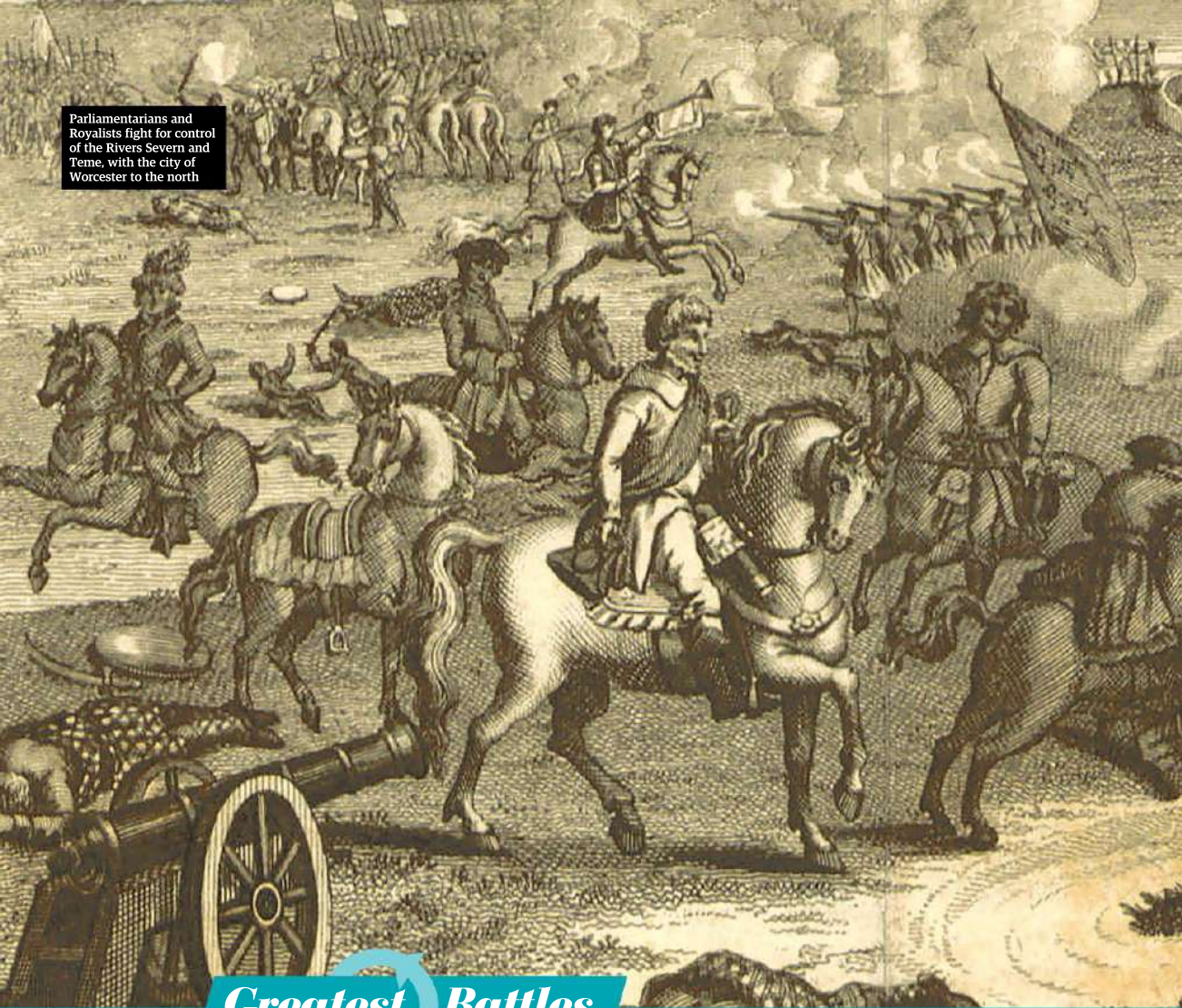


BELOW Mino warriors were mostly recruited as teenagers

BELOW-RIGHT Photograph of a Mino warrior from around 1890

BOTTOM The Dora Milaje bodyguards in Marvel film *Black Panther* (2018)





Parliamentarians and Royalists fight for control of the Rivers Severn and Teme, with the city of Worcester to the north

Greatest Battles

BATTLE OF WORCESTER

ENGLAND, 3 SEPTEMBER 1651

Written by Tom Garner

From 1642, the British Civil Wars consumed the Stuart dynasty's three kingdoms in a titanic struggle between king and parliament. The conflicts - proportionally the bloodiest in Britain's history - were fought across England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales, but in 1651 they ended where they'd begun nine years before. By this time, a king was dead, a republic had been proclaimed and the deceased monarch's heir had returned from exile to claim his kingdoms. This 21-year-old - Charles II - was determined to fight England's regicidal parliament but he'd have to confront one of Europe's greatest commanders in battle - Oliver Cromwell.

COVENANTER KINGMAKERS

The beheading of Charles I on 30 January 1649 was a shocking moment in British history. The



© Albany

trial and execution of a monarch by his own parliament was unprecedented and was the bloody denouement of two wars. The English parliament ruthlessly abolished the monarchy and became a republican Commonwealth, but the British Civil Wars were far from over. Charles had been king of England, Scotland and Ireland but although they were unified by the Crown they were governed separately.

There had been a strong Royalist presence in Ireland and in August 1649 Oliver Cromwell led an expedition to crush Irish resistance. His notoriously bloody campaign was successful but there were greater problems beginning to emerge in Scotland. Scottish Presbyterians, known as Covenanters, had provided crucial support to the English parliament during the first two Civil

Wars but Charles I had been executed without their consultation. This angered the Covenanters, whose own Scottish parliament proclaimed the exiled Prince of Wales as King Charles II on 5 February 1649.

The Covenanters proceeded to reluctantly join forces with Scottish Royalists, known as Engagers, and Charles II landed in Scotland on 23 June 1650. Charles had been proclaimed as the monarch of all three of his father's kingdoms but in reality only his Scottish throne was relatively secure. The Covenanters knew this and forced him to support Presbyterian governance across Britain. This move would have been extremely unpopular in predominantly Catholic Ireland and also England, where Charles was nominally the head of the Anglican Church.

Meanwhile, the Rump Parliament that had governed England since 1649 dispatched Cromwell, who had returned from Ireland, to invade Scotland. Cromwell's outnumbered New Model Army inflicted an unexpected, dramatic victory over the Scots at the Battle of Dunbar on 3 September 1650. His army went on to capture Edinburgh, which Cromwell described as "a high act of the Lord's Providence".

Large parts of Scotland now came under Commonwealth rule and Charles was so disheartened by this turn of events that he made a failed attempt to escape the Covenanters. Nevertheless, they crowned him as king of the Scots at Scone Abbey on 1 January 1651. Plans were then made to invade England and restore Charles to his English throne.

INVASION

Charles crossed the Anglo-Scottish border near Carlisle on 5 August 1651 with an army of 46 regiments that had been gathered from across Scotland. However, they only numbered approximately 11,000 men and were ill-equipped. Accompanying the king was Lieutenant-General David Leslie, a former Covenanter ally of Cromwell's who had also been crushingly defeated by him at Dunbar. Leslie had advised against invading England but Charles overruled him.

The king hoped to recruit English Royalists as he marched south but he had been declared a traitor by parliament and the only supporters who joined him were, according to the Council of State, "The scum of the people."

By contrast, the New Model Army was assembling with great efficiency to counter the Royalist threat. Cromwell marched south from the border through eastern England to prevent the Royalists reaching London. He also intended to gather a huge force to decisively defeat the Scots. Major-General John Lambert's cavalry began harassing Charles' army from the rear while Major-General Thomas Harrison's large force joined Lambert near Bolton, Lancashire, on 13 August 1651.

These two commanders represented the meritocratic system that made the New Model Army so successful. Both men had been lawyers, with Harrison being the son of a butcher. They were implacably opposed to Charles and when their forces linked up another Parliamentary commander wrote: "Both Major-Generals will march night and day until they get to [the Scots]."

Elsewhere, Major-General Charles Fleetwood gathered other Parliamentary soldiers and militiamen in London and the Home Counties, while another contingent advanced from Bristol. They converged in the centre of England at Warwick, where they came under Cromwell's full command. This combined army possibly numbered over 30,000 soldiers and was one of the largest military forces ever assembled in England at that time.

Charles' route to London was cut off and a retreat back to Scotland was blocked by a second

Parliamentarian force commanded by Colonel Robert Lilburne. The king's numerical inferiority, lack of supplies and strategic surrounding by Cromwell meant that he had to make a stand. Defending a town or city was better than risking an open battle and so the Scots made for the most suitable base: Worcester.

AN ENCIRCLED CITY

In 1651, Worcester was relatively wealthy and had been the last English Royalist city to surrender to parliament in July 1646 during the First English Civil War. Its 500-strong Parliamentary garrison fled or surrendered when the Scots arrived on 22 August 1651 and Charles was proclaimed as king by the mayor and led through the city. However, a local Royalist muster only resulted in 60 cavalymen.

After marching for 480km, the Scots briefly rested but Charles realised that the city's walled fortifications were inadequate. He ordered his men to build outer defences, including a redoubt to the southeast called Fort Royal Hill. However, on 25 August, 1,000 Royalist reinforcements commanded by the earl of Derby were defeated by Colonel Lilburne in Lancashire. Any hopes that the Scottish invasion could be successful were dashed and on 28 August the huge New Model Army arrived outside the city.

Cromwell decided to encircle Worcester, with Lambert discovering an undemolished bridge over the River Severn, 10km south of the city. An engagement was fought at the bridge at Upton-upon-Severn on 28 August, and Lambert's troops inflicted heavy casualties. This cut off any reinforcements Charles might have received from pro-Royalist Wales and western England.

In the wake of Lambert's success, Major-General Fleetwood crossed the Severn with 11,000 soldiers under his command. His intention was to attack Worcester from the south while the main portion of the New Model Army and its artillery were positioned east of the city at Red Hill and Perry Wood. Cromwell's force was split in two by the rivers Severn and Teme but pontoons over both waterways would maintain contact.

A 'STIFF CONTEST'

Over the next few days, the two sides uneasily watched each other over the walls of Worcester. Cromwell was in no hurry but Charles' surrounded army was becoming increasingly isolated. At dawn on 3 September 1651, Charles took personal command of his forces and observed the Parliamentarians from the tower of Worcester's medieval cathedral. It was a clear day and he was able to watch Fleetwood's troops advancing along the Severn's west bank hauling "great boats" that would be used to make the pontoons.

The king watched helplessly as the Parliamentarians spent hours dragging the pontoons to their positions. In the early afternoon of 3 September, the Parliamentary Major-General Richard Deane attacked Powick Bridge on the western confluence of the Teme to divert attention away from the pontoons' construction. The Royalist western defences were stoutly defended by the Scots, including a regiment of Highlanders. Deane was unable to cross Powick Bridge and although Fleetwood's men successfully crossed the Teme on their pontoons, the Highlanders initially drove them back.

Cromwell observed this faltering start to the battle and personally led three brigades across the Severn's pontoons to support Fleetwood. Against this attack, the Highlanders fell back from the Teme while Deane crossed Powick Bridge on his second attempt. The Parliamentarians now held the north bank of the Teme and the Scots fled back towards Worcester. Several Royalist commanders were killed or wounded in this retreat but their overall position was not entirely hopeless.

Cromwell's rush to the pontoons had weakened the eastern Parliamentarian positions at Red Hill and Perry Wood. Charles saw this from the cathedral tower and rushed down to gather his troops for a two-pronged attack east of the city. To the southwest, Deane's guns pounded Worcester's defences but Charles, as one witness noted, "behaved himself very gallantly" with a cavalry charge against Red Hill while Hamilton's horsemen attacked Perry Wood. The Royalists swept out of Sidbury Gate and St Martin's Gate and the Parliamentary infantry line faltered.

Despite the New Model Army's numerical superiority the battle hung in the balance, but Cromwell wheeled his own brigades around to throw the Royalists back into Worcester. He later recalled that the battle was "as stiff a contest for four or five hours as I have ever seen", while Charles' courageous leadership led to him being dismounted as his men withdrew into the city.

The Royalists' moment to turn the battle was largely lost because Leslie's 3,000-strong cavalry did not move from their northern position of Pitchcroft outside Worcester. Leslie's own morale was low and a Royalist reported of his cavalymen that "neither threats nor entreaty could persuade them to charge with His Majesty". Leslie's pessimism cost the Royalists dear, with



This Dutch engraving from 1661 shows Charles II riding out from Worcester



Hamilton being mortally wounded during the retreat back into the city.

Cromwell was now winning the battle and on the Parliamentarian left flank Fleetwood's men forced more Royalists back into Worcester. The Scottish infantry were noticeably brave and were seen "fighting with the butt-ends of their muskets when their ammunition was spent". On the southeast edge of the city, Fort Royal was stormed and captured by Parliamentarian militiamen who then used the captured Royalist cannons to fire into the streets.

Charles found a new horse inside Worcester and tried to rally his panicked men, saying: "I had rather you would shoot me than keep me alive to see the sad consequences of this fatal day!" But the king's plea was in vain as the Scots looked for ways to escape the city and flee north. One survivor recorded that soldiers trampled "one upon another [and were] much readier to cut each other's throat than to defend themselves against the enemy".

Still determined to make a stand, Charles had to be persuaded to leave the city. As he was about to depart from his headquarters, he was reputedly forced to abandon his papers and run from the back door when a Parliamentarian colonel burst through the front. The king rode out of Worcester through St Martin's Gate at six o'clock in the evening with the battle now well and truly lost.

With a price on his head of £1,000, Charles was relentlessly pursued by Cromwell's troops for over a month. With assistance from an underground network of English Royalists, the king successfully hid in several houses and even - most famously

PARLIAMENTARIANS



OLIVER CROMWELL

Having led the armies of parliament against Charles I and deposed the king of England, Cromwell was now arguably the most powerful man in the country. With this battle closing out the Civil War he went on to be named Lord Protector of the British Isles.



CHARLES FLEETWOOD

After fighting at Newbury and Naseby, Fleetwood was a trusted ally of Cromwell and grew into a hugely influential figure in parliament. He was elected to the Council of State shortly before heading to Worcester, where he played a key role in victory.



JOHN LAMBERT

Lambert takes much of the credit for Parliamentarian victories in the Scottish campaign that preceded this battle. He was awarded £1,000 per annum lands in Scotland as a result. Along with Fleetwood, he went on to be massively influential in parliament.

ROYALISTS



CHARLES II

After the execution of his father Charles I in 1649, Charles II was proclaimed king of Scotland by the Scottish Parliament. While he continued to fight Parliamentarian forces, the Battle of Worcester was the final blow that forced him to flee.



JAMES STANLEY, EARL OF DERBY

Stanley had wholeheartedly backed Charles I despite having not been much involved in disputes in parliament, where he had been a member. He went on to become a trusted ally of Charles II as well, but was unable to muster support for the king's invasion.

3 SEP 1651

Perry Wood

Fort Royal

Cathedral

Red Hill

CROMWELL

01 Fleetwood's pontoons

Major-General Charles Fleetwood's soldiers haul pontoons along the west bank of the River Sever over several hours on the morning of 3 September. Charles II watches their construction from Worcester Cathedral.

02 Fighting for the Teme

The Parliamentarians encounter ferocious Scottish resistance as they attempt to cross the River Teme at both Powick Bridge and by using their pontoons. Three-hundred Highlanders fight "with characteristic bravery and [dispute] every hedge".

03 Cromwell to the rescue

Oliver Cromwell leads three brigades to support Fleetwood's troops on the Severn. The extra Parliamentarian support pushes the Royalists back from the Severn and Teme. Scottish troops retreat towards Worcester.

04 Charles II counterattacks

The king exploits the Parliamentarian gap left by Cromwell at Red Hill and Perry Wood. Two Royalist cavalry charges from Sidbury Gate and St Martin's Gate result in fierce clashes with Parliamentarian infantrymen. Cromwell turns around and leads his brigades back to their original positions to counter the Royalist threat.

WORCESTER

05

LESLIE

04

CHARLES II

HAMILTON

07

08

MONTGOMERY



River Severn

05 Leslie's fatal inaction

At a critical moment, Lieutenant-General David Leslie fails to move his Scottish cavalrymen to support Charles II east of Worcester. The Royalists fighting at Red Hill and Perry Wood, including the king, are forced back into the city at great cost.

06 Parliamentary progress

With the Royalists now retreating into the city, the Parliamentarians advance on all flanks. Fleetwood moves from the left, despite stiff Scottish resistance, while on the right militiamen from Essex capture Fort Royal Hill. The captured Royalist guns are then fired into the city.

07 Urban fighting

Vicious fighting takes place on the streets of Worcester as Charles fails to organise his men into coherent formations. Scottish troops begin to escape from the city in a panic as they attempt to flee north from the pursuing Parliamentarians.

08 Charles escapes

He is reluctantly persuaded to ride out of Worcester via St Martin's Gate at 6pm. As he departs, the Parliamentarians mop up Royalist resistance that includes a few urban cavalry charges. Worcester is finally recaptured by Cromwell's men as thousands of Royalists lie dead or are captured in and around the city.

- a tree in Shropshire that became known as the Royal Oak. He travelled through several counties before he finally escaped by sea from Shoreham, West Sussex, on 15 October 1651.

The vast majority of his soldiers were not so fortunate. While Charles was leaving Worcester, the Parliamentarians picked off small Royalist cavalry charges in the streets and eliminated pockets of resistance until the city was taken.

FORGOTTEN 'LIBERTY'

Up to 3,000 Scots were killed during the battle, with another 10,000 captured both in combat and as they tried to flee back to Scotland. Many prisoners became indentured servants in the Caribbean while, by contrast, the Parliamentarians only lost approximately 200 men. With the Royalist threat completely crushed, the British Civil Wars were finally over. Cromwell, who had fought the Battle of Worcester exactly one year after Dunbar, wrote to the Speaker of the House of Commons and called his victory "a crowning mercy." His power was immeasurably strengthened and from 1653 he ruled Britain unopposed as Lord Protector until his death in 1658.

In a historic irony, Worcester had also been the scene of the conflict's very first engagement at Powick Bridge in September 1642. The coincidence was not lost on Cromwell's chaplain Hugh Peter, who told the victorious New Model Army after the battle: "When your wives and children shall ask where you have been, and what news: say you have been at Worcester, where England's sorrows began, and where they are happily ended."

After his escape, Charles spent years in exile living at various European courts before he returned to England at parliament's invitation for his Restoration in 1660. It appeared as though the Civil Wars had ultimately swung in the Royalists' favour, but the outcome at Worcester still had far-reaching consequences.

The battle entrenched the power of England's parliament and even Charles' Restoration could not prevent it becoming fully sovereign over the monarchy by 1688. Parliament's victory was also remembered by future revolutionaries who found inspiration in its intellectual militarism. The New Model Army had birthed several political movements, including the Levellers who advocated unprecedented forms of extended suffrage, equality before the law and religious tolerance. These ideas were so revolutionary that even Cromwell felt forced to crush them. Nevertheless, their ideas lived on - particularly in the New World.

The American Revolution had its roots in this 17th century English radicalism and the legacy of the Civil Wars was not lost on the Founding Fathers. In April 1786, the future American presidents John Adams and Thomas Jefferson visited Worcester a few years after the United States had gained independence from Britain.

Battle of Worcester (1651)

● Royalist
● Parliament



LORD HALIFAX BECAME PRIME MINISTER?

Often named as one of the 'architects of appeasement', what could his premiership have meant for Britain's role in World War II?

Interview by Callum McKelvie

INTERVIEW WITH



PROFESSOR JOE MAIOLO

Professor Joe Maiolo is a historian of International Politics at King's College London. He is the author of *Gry Havoc: The Arms Race and the Second World War, 1931-41* and is currently completing a book on the war's origins for Cambridge University Press.

Unlike any other British prime minister, Winston Churchill's wartime premiership is legendary and he himself has become an almost mythical figure. It may come as some surprise, then, that Churchill was not the first choice to be Neville Chamberlain's successor when he resigned in May 1940. The favourite was Edward Frederick Lindley Wood, more commonly known as Lord Halifax. Wood was a key figure during the late 1930s as Britain geared up for war with Nazi Germany. Often considered one of the architects of appeasement, this has made historians wonder as to what could have happened had it been Halifax in 10 Downing Street and not the British Bulldog himself, Churchill. Here, historian Joe Maiolo discusses Halifax's role in appeasement as well as what his premiership could have looked like.

Who was Lord Halifax?

The title 'Lord' is a giveaway. He came from an aristocratic English family with a long history of public service. He was educated at Oxford and perhaps should never have left. He's an intensely cerebral character and could have been an Oxford don, but instead became a Conservative MP and was elected for the first time in 1910. During World War I he served in France. That sums up his background but when you get down to who Lord Halifax was, the photographs of him really capture the character. He was a very tall slender man with a large head.

This is a picture of a man who puts his rationality before his emotions.

Can you briefly explain the notion of appeasement?

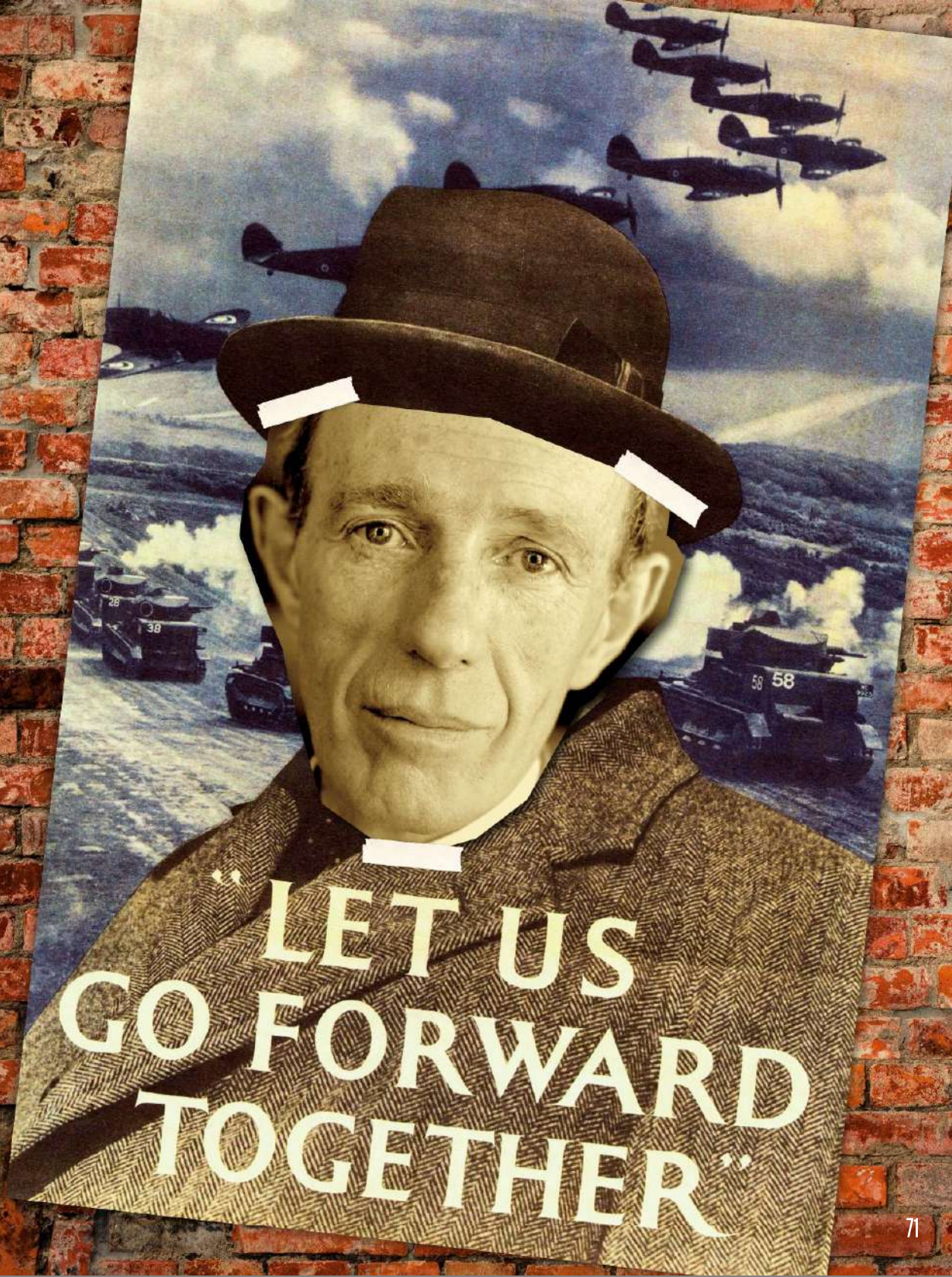
Appeasement now is commonly used pejoratively to describe a foreign policy of surrendering to threats. No one wants to be an appeaser, nobody wants to be Neville Chamberlain, everybody wants to be Winston Churchill. Lord Halifax is usually associated with Chamberlain as one of the architects of appeasement in the 1930s. At the time all the word really

meant was to pacify a difficult political situation - a wish to appease Europe, to bring about peace after WWI. Now what appeasement meant for Chamberlain and Halifax was a strategy of diplomacy and deterrence. In 1934 a very important British defence committee identified Germany as Britain's ultimate potential enemy, and put a five-year timeline for rearmament to be ready for war. There was no misapprehension that there might be a war in Europe and that Germany might be the principal enemy. In the 1930s the question for British officials



RIGHT

Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin at the Yalta Conference. How might Halifax have dealt with such an event?



“LET US
GO FORWARD
TOGETHER”

THE PAST

1916-18

HALIFAX IN WWI

He managed to avoid being involved in the front lines of World War I until 1916 as a captain in the Queen's Own Yorkshire Dragoons. Halifax was surprised to find himself mentioned in dispatches of January 1917, proclaiming: "Heaven knows what for!" For the remainder of the war he was employed as deputy director of the supply department in the Ministry of National Service.

1925-29

HALIFAX IN INDIA

As viceroy of India, Halifax's devout Christianity is credited as one of the reasons why he had a good understanding with Indian nationalist Mahatma Gandhi.

The pact the two created was a result of a period of Civil Disobedience, which had begun in March 1930 with the Salt March. The march was a response to the heavy salt tax imposed by British Imperial rule, as well as limitations on who could collect or sell salt. At the end of the march some 60,000 individuals had been arrested, including Gandhi himself. Halifax met with

Gandhi and as a result of their discussions some compromises were agreed. Gandhi, as a representative of the Indian National Congress, then attended the Second Round Table Conference in London.

1938

PEACE FOR OUR TIME

Frequently misquoted as 'peace in our time', the famous speech by Neville Chamberlain made on 30 September 1938 was a response to his having signed a non-aggression pact with Nazi Germany. Chamberlain had attended the Munich conference where Germany, France, Italy and Britain had agreed upon the annexation of the Sudetenland in Czechoslovakia.

Chamberlain's also wanted Hitler's signature on the Anglo-German declaration, seen by him as a potential guarantee of peace. However Chamberlain stated Hitler was, "without question the most detestable and bigoted man with whom it had been his lot to do business."

was, how to deter Germany? Chamberlain, when he was chancellor of the exchequer in the early 1930s, poured money into the Royal Air Force to threaten Germany. This deterrent was meant to force Germany to the negotiating table. Appeasement ultimately failed because Adolf Hitler could not be deterred, but it was a strategy nonetheless.

What exactly was Halifax's role in appeasement and Chamberlain's government?

When historians look at appeasement and at the role of Halifax, they tend to see the relationship with Germany in isolation and not in connection to his time as viceroy of India. After World War I, the legitimacy of empire was in question. In India, there was a movement for India to become a sovereign nation. Halifax met that challenge to British rule politically and he was praised for his negotiation with [Indian independence campaigner] Gandhi. Halifax understood that there were forces pulling apart the British Empire in every direction and that it had to be defended through diplomacy. In the late 1930s Halifax was in Chamberlain's government as foreign secretary. His visit to Germany in November 1937 was an attempt to discover what the Nazis wanted. Did Hitler want to make Germany another great European power again? Or did he want domination and the mastery of all Europe? At the time that was an open question. Halifax listened to German moderates, those who told him that all they wanted was for Germany to be a European great power again. Halifax therefore supported efforts to integrate Germany into the European states system. But after the September 1938 Czechoslovakia crisis, something changed fundamentally in the relationship between Halifax and Chamberlain.



ABOVE
Britain's War Cabinet in November 1939. Halifax is at the front on the far left

Halifax effectively said: 'No more Munichs for me'. In other words, he agreed that appeasement as a strategy made sense but there was also something unseemly about the British prime minister flying to Germany to negotiate the carve up of Czechoslovakia with Hitler. For someone who had a deep sense of the power of the British Empire, this was too much. After November 1938 Halifax's version of appeasement emphasised deterrence over negotiation.

What was Halifax's view on a potential war with Germany and his role in the phoney war?

Britain and France declared war on Germany in September 1939. Up until the spring of 1940 you get a period of relative military inaction called 'the phoney war'. Some have argued that the phoney was a continuation of appeasement, that Britain and France did little fighting because they wanted a peace deal with Hitler. I don't think that's right. If elements inside Germany had toppled Hitler it is possible that Chamberlain and Halifax might have made a deal with a new government, but what that would have meant for Poland is difficult to imagine. However, the key point is that the phoney war wasn't a continuation of appeasement. The French and British believed that they could defeat Germany in a long war. For France the campaign in May-June 1940 turned out to be very brief. But that German victory didn't change the fundamentals. You can knock France out of the war, but the Soviet Union, the British Empire, and parts of the French Empire continued to fight on. The United States was arming and would support Britain. What was Halifax's view of the war? To win it, but to win it without destroying the British Empire. In the end that proved impossible.

BELOW
Lord Halifax with British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain visiting Paris by boat in 1938. Would Halifax have made a superior prime minister?



How likely is it that Halifax could have become prime minister instead of Churchill?

Was it plausible that Halifax could have been prime minister? Absolutely. On the Labour benches there were some who wanted him to be prime minister; he seemed to be someone who could work within the apparatus of the state. He also wasn't an overpowering personality. The two big political personalities of this era were Chamberlain, who was generally disliked for his arrogance, and Churchill, who was a larger-than-life character who also often outraged his colleagues. As a prime minister, Halifax would have been a compromise between those two overpowering figures. He was regarded as extremely competent and even-tempered. But even though he had his supporters he didn't want to be prime minister, he knew this was not a role for him. He knew his limitations and this kind of soul-searching was a pattern in his political life. He had been very reluctant to become viceroy of India and he wasn't certain about becoming foreign secretary. He knew his limits. He knew he was not the right person to become a wartime prime minister.

Had Halifax been prime minister would he have tried to negotiate peace in May 1940?

Let's suppose for a moment that Halifax was somehow convinced to become prime minister in 1940, and events unfold as they did: a catastrophic defeat in France in May 1940. The German armies break through the Ardennes, it's a military, political and diplomatic crisis. What would Halifax have done? Probably nothing very different from what the British government in fact did do. I think as prime minister Halifax would have been a bit more sensitive to the threat of air power and the threat of bombing. He may have investigated some diplomatic alternatives more thoroughly in cabinet discussions, like supporting the French to seek negotiations with Germany, but the war machine was in full swing. The British Empire was mobilising for total war. The war was becoming global and Britain could mobilise the power to win it. Lord Halifax, the former viceroy of India, understood that.

Avoiding the war, what sort of policies would Halifax have tried to implement internally?

I think they would have been within the norms of the Conservative Party of the 1920s. Perhaps also a return to free trade,



ABOVE
Lord Halifax pictured with Winston Churchill in Downing Street in 1940

the breakdown of imperial preferences which had been introduced during the Great Depression. But this question takes us back to why Halifax didn't want to be prime minister. I think he felt out of place in the mid-20th century - he belonged to an earlier time, a 19th century world of empire aristocracy and social deference. After the war, Churchill invited him to join his shadow cabinet, but Halifax turned him down and retired from party politics. Halifax always had a good sense of his limitations and knew he was out of step with the politics of post-war Britain.

Compared to Churchill, do you personally think he would have made a good prime minister?

I think a question that's worth asking is, from November 1937 to September 1939, would Halifax have been a better prime minister than Chamberlain? I think yes. Chamberlain thinks that he can solve every problem, including impending war in Europe. His arrogance is what annoyed his colleagues. Halifax understood his limitations and had a better sense of British military power. He probably would not have flown to Germany in September 1938 to negotiate with Hitler. Had there been no Munich conference to stop a war, how would history have been different? In comparison with Churchill, well, wartime leadership requires a different kind of personality. Halifax would have been an incredibly competent Prime Minister and chair of the war cabinet. He would have kept the machinery going in ways that Churchill wasn't very good at. He would have interfered less in military operations, for instance. But wartime leadership in this era of charismatic leaders required charisma. Halifax was not at all charismatic - can you imagine him sitting with Roosevelt and Stalin at Yalta in 1945? He would have looked out of place.

THE POSSIBILITY

1940

THE BLITZ

Professor Joe Maiolo suspects that Halifax may have shown more sensitivity towards the threat of air power, and in particular German bombing. Beginning on 7 September 1940 when 300 German bombers raided London, the subsequent 57 attacks would constitute a period known as 'the Blitz' (from the German 'Blitzkrieg') which lasted until May of the following year. The majority of these raids were centred on London, with Liverpool being Britain's second most bombed city, followed closely by Birmingham. Some 43,500 civilians were killed during the entirety of the Blitz. Could Halifax's greater focus on air power have mitigated the severity of the Blitz?



1930S

IMPERIAL PREFERENCE

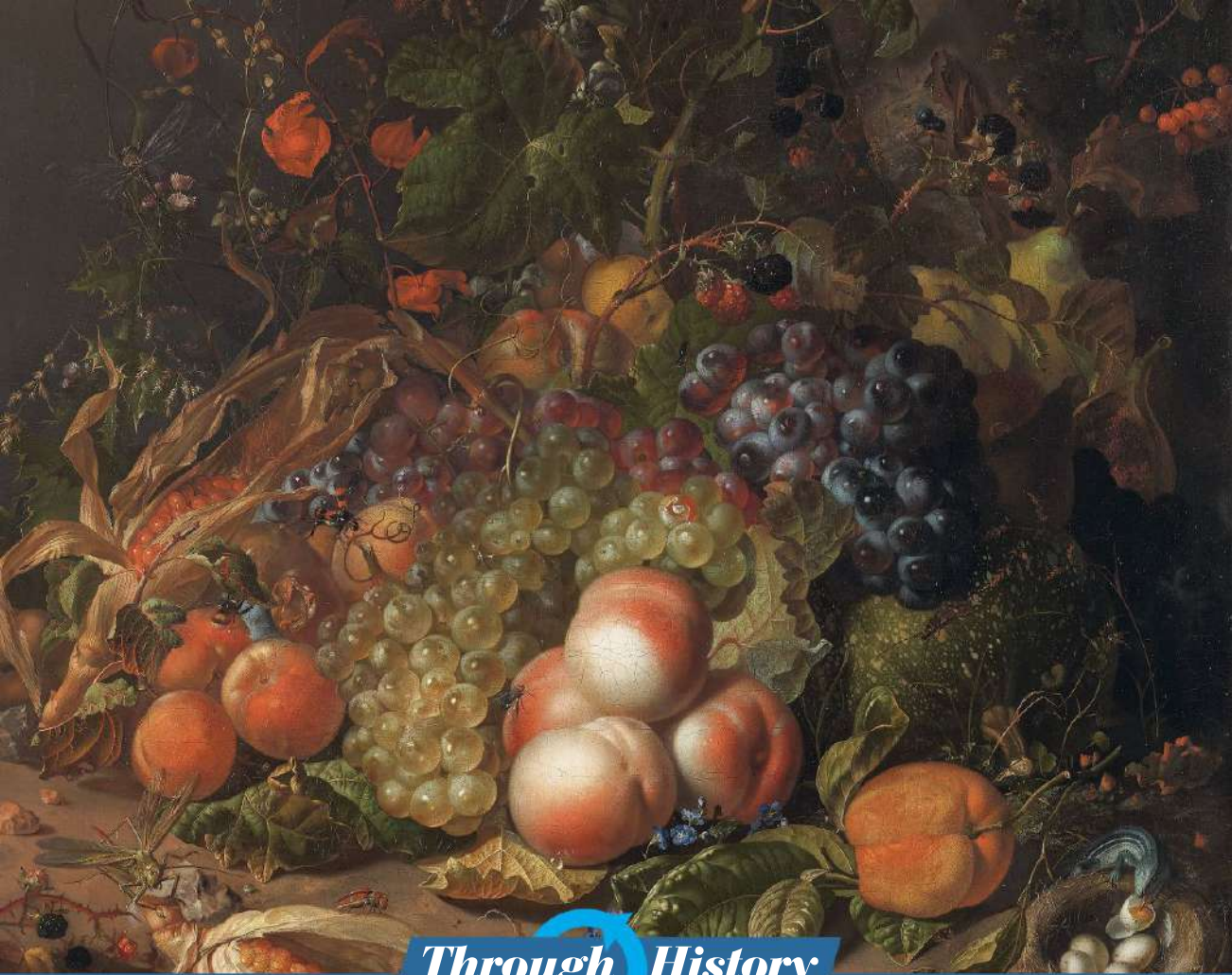
If Halifax had been prime minister he may well have initiated a return to free trade and a breakdown of imperial preferences. This policy, introduced in 1932, allowed the free entry of imperial goods to Britain and imposed new tariffs on some food and metal imports.

1945-59

HALIFAX AFTER THE WAR

Serving as ambassador to the United States between 1941 and 1946, it was upon his return that Halifax was offered a role in Churchill's shadow cabinet, an offer he declined. Continuing to play an active role in the House of Lords, he retired from frontline politics and spent a great deal of time at his Yorkshire estates. One of his final and most important interventions in the Lords was his criticism of Anthony Eden's handling of the Suez Crisis. Halifax suffered a heart attack on the 23 December 1959 and passed away. What his final years would have been like had he served as prime minister it is hard to know. Indeed, had he accepted Churchill's offer of a position in the Shadow Cabinet it poses the question as to whether he would have had a role in Churchill's 1951-55 government.





Through History

A BRUSH WITH HISTORY

Exploring the rich collection of paintings and artworks held by the National Trust

There is a well-known expression that 'a picture paints a thousand words' and if that is true then every painting has a story to tell. Historically, the importance of this artistic medium cannot be overstated - after all, what would our shared perceptions of figures such as William Shakespeare or Henry VIII be without their famous portraits shaping our view of them? This form in particular has always had a particular social importance, showing the status of a client as the elites

used their art collections to flaunt their power, wealth and influence.

While the majority of the most famous works can be seen in art galleries such as France's the Louvre or Britain's The National Gallery, many other organisations also hold historic works. Some of these bodies, such as the UK's National Trust, keep these paintings in a variety of locations and until now it has been hard to get a glimpse of the entire collection. *100 Paintings from the Collections of the National Trust*

contains everything from Italian Renaissance masterpieces to 20th century British landscapes to works by artists such as JMW Turner. All of these works come from properties owned by the National Trust and can be viewed in a variety of country houses and historic homes.

Across the following pages is an intriguing selection of examples from the National Trust's extensive art collections, showcasing a variety of beautiful paintings and the fascinating stories behind them.



MAHARAJA IN MINIATURE

▲ For some time it was thought that this miniature depicts Maharaja Pratap Singh, the ruler of southern India from 1739-65, as stated on the reverse of the portrait. However, it has since been discovered that it depicts Tulsaji, his son and successor.

PAINTING PENRHYN

▼ This 1832 landscape by Henry Hawkins shows Penrhyn slate quarry, at the time the largest in Wales and, most likely, the world. It is thought the painting was commissioned to celebrate the visit of 13-year-old Princess Victoria.



HUANG YA DONG

▲ In the late 18th century Chinese visitors to England were rare, and 21-year-old Huang Ya Dong garnered much interest when he arrived in 1774. Described as having had a "thirst for knowledge", Huang discussed numerous subjects with noted individuals, including explaining the principles of acupuncture to physician Andrew Duncan.





BRITAIN'S FIRST FEMALE CIVIL SERVANT

◀ This 1858 portrait shows Jane 'Jeanie' Elizabeth Hughes, who would become Britain's first female civil servant. Her role as the inspector of workhouses and pauper schools was fiercely resisted at the time.

HOGARTH AND HOMOSEXUALITY

▶ This painting by William Hogarth shows a group of affluent friends. During the 18th century, many homosexual affairs were conducted by the elite and Hogarth himself had romantic relationships with at least one of the men depicted here.





GREY GRISAILLE

▲ This picture by Pieter Bruegel the Elder portrays the 'dormition' – peaceful death – of the Virgin Mary. It's a type of painting known as a grisaille, a monochrome picture made with various shades of grey that was used in large compositions to imitate the effects of sculpture.



PORTRAIT OF A KING

▲ Upon becoming monarch, Henry VIII used portraiture to assert the image of himself as a strong and powerful ruler. So successful was this portrait by Hans Holbein that it became the main source on which future portraits of Henry were based.



100 Paintings from the Collections of the National Trust
is out now, priced £10

REVIEWS

The books, TV shows and films causing a stir in the history world this month



THE BOLEYNs: A SCANDALOUS FAMILY

A much-needed balanced perspective on one of England's most notorious families

Director: Richard Curson Smith **Distributor:** BBC **Cast:** Dr Owen Emmerson, Dr Lauren Mackay **Released:** Out now

The Boleyn family has continued to fascinate us for almost five centuries, having changed the course of English history. Their dramatic rise and fall is a story that we have heard time and time again, yet this docu-drama has breathed new life into their tale.

The series is divided into three hour-long episodes. The first, titled *Ambition*, is about patriarch Thomas Boleyn and his efforts to advance himself and his family within the Tudor court. The second, *Desire*, focuses on the Boleyns at the height of their power, Anne's relationship with Henry VIII, and the king's desire for an annulment. The final episode, *The Fall*, focuses on Anne's reign as queen and her spectacular downfall.

Interspersed with dramatic reconstructions with actors portraying the Boleyn family, *The Boleyns: A Scandalous Family* features interviews with a variety of expert historians. The presence of actors re-enacting scenes may not be to everyone's taste, but they do help to bring history to life and may help viewers

visualise the tension among the Boleyns and the wider court.

The narrative that the Boleyns were ambitious, ruthless and manipulative has been repeated often, but this docu-drama offers a revisionist perspective. It puts the family's situation into context by challenging the widely held assumption that the Boleyns were in control of what was going on. In actuality, Tudor court politics - let alone King Henry himself - were unpredictable and volatile, and the Boleyns could not have foreseen what would happen.

It also provides a reassessment of both Thomas and George that has been needed for some time, notably questioning the belief that they used Anne as a pawn in their desire for power. It is made clear that Anne was not a pawn of her family, but that she knew her own mind and what she wanted. After all, it was Anne who negotiated with Henry and secured the coveted marriage proposal, not her family.

It is also interesting to learn that Thomas Boleyn and Cardinal Wolsey actually worked well alongside each other, with Thomas

being torn when it became evident that Wolsey wouldn't be able to achieve the king's annulment from Catherine of Aragon. While Anne enjoyed Wolsey's demise, her father was more conflicted and this is typically overlooked.

Throughout the series, there are lots of stunning graphic illustrations that help viewers to visualise how the Boleyns slowly but surely made their way from the fringes of the complex Tudor court to entering the king's inner circle. It is also great to see so many archival documents, such as Henry's letters to Anne, shown on screen.

For those with a fascination for the Boleyn family, you may not learn anything you did not know, especially in relation to Anne's time as queen and her downfall. However, the series does present a balanced perspective that has been lacking in public history for a long time. *The Boleyns: A Scandalous Family* is currently available on BBC iPlayer and is well worth watching. **JL**



Reviews by

Jessica Leggett, Catherine Curzon, Beth Wyatt

HARLOTS, WHORES & HACKABOUTS



An indispensable journey through the history of sex for sale

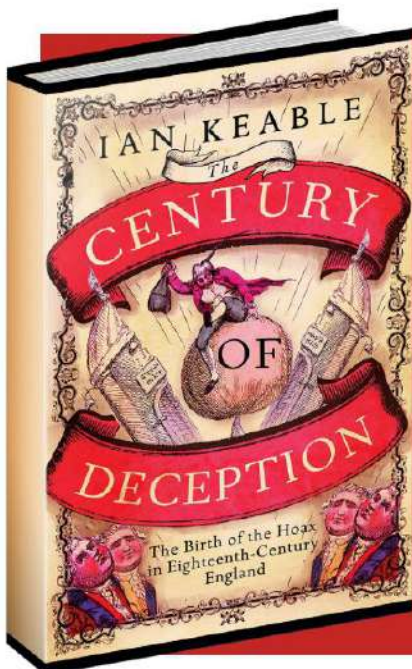
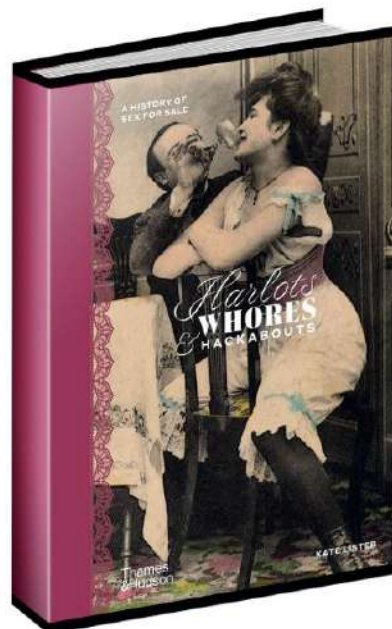
Author: Kate Lister **Publisher:** Thames & Hudson **Price:** £25 **Released:** Out now

The history of sex for sale has, by its very nature, long been shrouded in mystery, with those who were at its centre shoved into the shadows and dismissed. In *Harlots, Whores & Hackabouts*, Kate Lister turns the spotlight back on the people who made history in their own way, bringing them vividly back to life. No longer caricatures, victims or faceless cyphers to be used by moral crusaders, Lister positions the sex workers firmly at the heart of this narrative.

Taking a chronological approach, Lister is an able guide through centuries of history, from ancient Mesopotamia all the way up to the present day. Along the way she introduces the reader to the "harlots, whores and hackabouts" who populated each era. It is a journey that takes in the whole world, peopled by a cast of fascinating, complex and undeservedly marginalised characters.

Lister is an engaging and authoritative writer who opens up a world that has been hidden to many, and *Harlots, Whores & Hackabouts* invites readers to set sensation and tabloid headlines aside. She reveals a history filled with stigma and oppression, in which discussion has all too often forgotten, stereotyped and dismissed the sex workers themselves. In this important new work, they are the whole story.

Harlots, Whores & Hackabouts is without doubt a marvellous book. It is richly illustrated with photographs, artefacts and other materials, and is a handsome and colourful volume in every sense. Engaging, readable and written with humour, compassion and sensitivity, it deserves to be read. **CC**



THE CENTURY OF DECEPTION



A fascinating romp through an extraordinary time

Author: Ian Keable **Publisher:** The Westbourne Press **Price:** £20 **Released:** Out now

Pranks, hoaxes and hoodwinks are nothing new these days. Careers have been made on them, celebrity has been founded on them, and the public have long since been the victims of bamboozlers, either for profit, entertainment or sheer devilment. In *The Century of Deception*, magician Ian Keable takes the reader on a journey through the flamboyant and fascinating world of the 18th century hoax, those who perpetrated them, and the thousands of people who fell for them.

From a showman who faced the ire of the crowd for failing to climb inside a bottle to the woman who gave birth to rabbits, scratching ghosts and everything in between, all Georgian life is here. Featuring a cast of characters who wouldn't look out of place in the pages of 18th

century fiction, this is the sort of book that keeps you turning the pages.

What emerges from Keable's wonderfully readable book is how willing people were to put their common sense to one side in the hope of seeing something wonderful. It is also fascinating to watch the birth of the stunts we still see today, in a world where 'going viral' is a career goal for many. Yet the impact of these early hoaxes spread all through society, influencing everything from press to government, and sucking in some of the most celebrated names of the era. *The Century of Deception* is a joy to read. Witty, informative and written with unmistakable affection, this rich and entertaining book brings the Georgian world vividly back to life. **CC**





Everything You Need to Know About... The First World War

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HISTORY WAR RECOMMENDS...



Nursing Churchill

Author Paul Jill Rose **Price** £9.99 **Publisher** Amberley

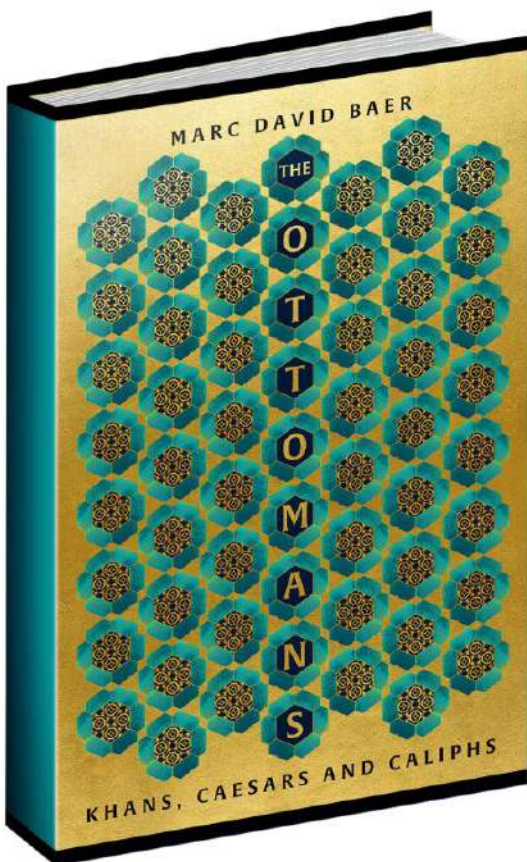
"The patient is all he is cracked up to be." So wrote Doris Miles to her husband. The patient in question was none other than Winston Churchill, who had been diagnosed by his doctor Sir Charles Wilson as having pneumonia. Miles's daughter Jill Rose has assembled a collection of her mother's letters and personal observations of her, "difficult patient," at a critical time during the war. The book provides a fascinating insight into those precarious days in Churchill's life.

Out now!

THE OTTOMANS: KHANS, CAESARS AND CALIPHS

A thrilling history of one of the world's largest empires

Author Marc David Baer **Publisher** Basic Books **Price** £30 **Released** 14 October 2021



Empires can grow from the smallest of roots. The Ottoman dynasty began life as one of many nomad chieftaincies in Anatolia, in the shadow of the gargantuan Mongol Empire. Over the course of the early medieval era, it grew conquest by conquest until it ruled a territory of millions of people, stretching across Europe, Asia and Africa at its height. It produced sultans to match Europe's powerful monarchs - from Mehmed II, who conquered Constantinople (Istanbul) in 1453, to Suleiman 'The Magnificent', contemporary of Charles V, Francis I and Henry VIII, whose military actions took him as far within Europe as the gates of Vienna. These events were but a distant memory when the empire dissolved in the early 20th century, one of a number to fall in the event or aftermath of World War I.

Marc David Baer's *The Ottomans* is an ambitious work of narrative history, charting the key moments of the dynasty's lifespan in just over 500 pages. It argues that the Ottoman Empire is an integral part of European history, an entity which was shaped by, and in turn shaped, events on the continent. An empire which saw itself as the successor of the Romans, and actively participated in the warfare, diplomacy, cultural trends and trade of the day. Baer draws on an impressive range of historical approaches - gender, society, politics and military matters all have their place here. Brutal events and cultural achievements sit side-by-side. We read of power struggles between sultans' heirs, discord and revolt within the Janissaries (the sultan's military corps), but also of architectural marvels

from mosques to pleasure gardens, and Renaissance-era art and patronage.

One of the most detailed themes is the empire's treatment of its diverse population. Its people included Muslim, Greek Orthodox, Jewish, Armenian, Arab, Kurd and Italian communities. The empire converted huge numbers of its new (conquered) citizens to Islam but for centuries it also practised religious tolerance. Among the communities to settle in Constantinople were Spanish Jews who had been expelled from Catholic Spain. Although, as Baer notes, tolerance is a power relationship in and of itself, with the dominant party determining the degree of tolerance permitted. We see this all too tragically in the accounts of massacres targeting Armenian communities in the 1890s, and the genocide of these same communities under the cover of World War I.

The book - which closes with the establishment of the secular Turkish Republic in 1922 - runs as a continuous narrative, with the exception of some sections which pause the account to discuss specific themes including the sultan's harem, same-sex relationships in the empire and the Ottoman Age of Discovery. Readers may find this disrupts the flow of the overarching story - and indeed these themes do feature in varying degrees elsewhere in the book - but nevertheless these diversions provide welcome context.

The Ottomans is a convincing study that provides multifaceted insights into one of the largest empires the world has ever seen. **BW**



"A convincing study that provides multifaceted insights into one of the largest empires the world has seen"

HISTORY HOLLYWOOD

Fact versus fiction on the silver screen



MATA HARI

Director: Curtis Harrington **Starring:** Sylvia Kristel, Oliver Tobias, Christopher Cazenove **Country:** USA **Released:** 1985

Does this erotic take on the story of the famous female spy leave the facts in the boudoir?

VERDICT: Takes the Mata Hari story and gives it a Mills & Boon-style script. Any history included is mostly wrong.

01 The film follows Sylvia Kristel as exotic dancer Mata Hari, who is caught between the French and German intelligence forces during WWI. The real Hari told a fictional story of how she learnt her dances in a Indian temple, an element the film presents as real.

02 Gaye Brown plays Elsbeth Schragmüller, more widely known as Fraülein Doktor. A real WWI German spy trainer, it is unknown whether she trained Hari as many of the records were destroyed. But there is no suggestion of the two having a lesbian affair.

03 Oliver Tobias plays Ladoux, a real French Intelligence officer. In the film he is close friends with the German officer Karl Von Bayerling, a fictional creation, and is shown to have some infatuation with Hari. In reality Ladoux may have fabricated evidence against her.

04 At one point during the film Marta Hari is sent by the French to Madrid. In reality, she was deported to Spain, where she did have a number of relationships with French and German officers, although the ones depicted in the film are fictional.

05 Hari's execution at the end of the film did occur and the motivation provided - to boost French morale - is accurate. In reality Hari was not caught having foiled a bomb plot instigated by Fraulein Doktor, but she did refuse a blindfold at her execution.



Mata Hari: © Getty
Still from film: source: MGM



Did you know?

Ackee is derived from the original name ankye, which comes from the Twi language of Ghana

Ingredients

- 1 540g can ackee, drained
- 300g saltfish (salted cod preferred), boneless and skinless
- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 1 tsp dried thyme or fresh thyme
- 3 cloves garlic, finely minced
- 2 spring onions, thinly sliced
- 1 medium onion, finely chopped
- 1 Scotch bonnet pepper, deseeded and finely chopped
- 1 medium tomato, chopped
- 1 sweet bell pepper, thinly sliced
- Black pepper

Main image: © Alamy
Inset image: © Alamy

ACKEE AND SALT FISH

JAMAICA'S NATIONAL DISH, JAMAICA, C.18TH CENTURY – PRESENT

Jamaica's national fruit is the ackee, a red fruit related to the lychee that originated in West Africa and arrived on the island in the mid-1700s. Saltfish (salted cod) was imported from the North Atlantic, and both ingredients arrived in Jamaica as a result of the transatlantic slave trade. Because ackee and saltfish were inexpensive and simple to store, they quickly became staples of the Jamaican diet. However, great care has to be taken when preparing ackee as it contains poisonous toxins when it is unripe. Thankfully, ackee can now be bought in cans, ripe and safe to eat. It's unclear when ackee and saltfish were first combined into one dish, but it is still a popular and traditional breakfast in Jamaica today.

METHOD

- 01 Wash any excess salt from the saltfish and then leave to soak in cold water for at least an hour, or overnight if possible.
- 02 Once the saltfish has been soaked, add it to a saucepan and cover with water. Bring to a boil and simmer for around 20 minutes. When the fish is cooked, drain and leave it to cool. Shred the saltfish into pieces using a fork or your hands and set aside.
- 03 In a large saucepan or frying pan, heat the olive oil on medium heat. Add the garlic, spring onions, onion and Scotch bonnet pepper. Cook for about five minutes until soft.
- 04 Add the bell pepper and thyme and cook for about two minutes. Add in the saltfish, season with black pepper and cook for three to five minutes. Stir in the chopped tomato and let it cook for two minutes.
- 05 Add the ackee into the pan and allow the dish to simmer for about two to three minutes. Stir in the ackee gently because it can break apart easily and become mushy.
- 06 Season to taste and serve immediately. If you want to, serve it alongside some other side dishes such as fried plantain and dumplings.

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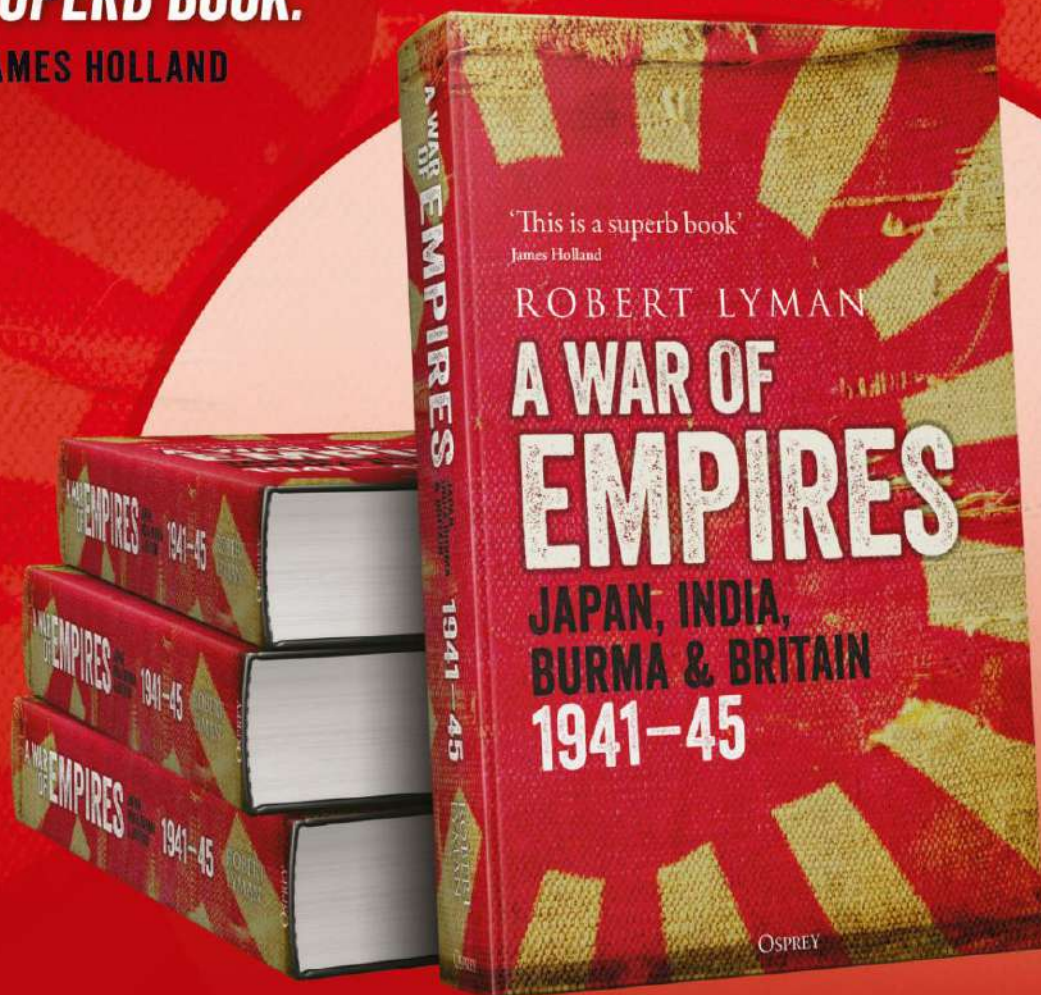
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